

Public Libraries

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Three Kinds of Librarians*

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The human eye is so constituted that it can see clearly but a small part of the field of vision at one time. We have learned by habit to move it about quickly and comprehensively, so that unless our attention is called to the fact we do not realize this limitation; but it exists. In like manner, it is difficult for the human mind to take a comprehensive view of a subject. We are apt to fix upon some one feature and ignore the rest. In recent times we have been devoting our attention to the personal element. We talk about the "man behind the gun" a good deal. I would not underrate him or what he can do; but it is surely necessary to have the gun itself before the man behind it can be effective. In fact, the man *per se* is about the most helpless of animals. His superiority to the mere brute lies in his ability to use tools; his inferiority in the fact that he can do almost nothing without them. A man with a gun is indeed formidable; a wildcat can do nothing with such a tool, but then he is reasonably formidable without it. I have yielded thus to the temptation to depreciate the personal element somewhat, at the beginning of an address in which it is to be discussed, because this defect of the human mind, that tends to fix it upon one feature to the exclusion of others, has of late apparently led many to think that a man is valuable in himself and by himself, without anything to work with or anything to work on.

*Read before the Missouri library association, Sedalia, November 18, 1914.

A man is making a failure of his job; the first thought is that he must be replaced. Nine persons out of ten fail to inquire whether anyone at all could have succeeded under the same conditions. Your cook prepares an inedible meal; you rage and call loudly for a new regime in the kitchen; whereas all the time your competent servant has been struggling with a faulty range, tough meat and bad flour.

Shall we, then, sit down and refuse to do anything at all unless our tools and our materials are of the best? By no means; one of the chief distinctions between a capable and an inefficient worker lies in the ability of the former to make the best of unpromising conditions. No one can do as well with poor tools and materials as with good ones; but the good worker will turn out a better job with the former than the inefficient one will.

These things apply of course to the library worker as to all others, especially to librarians in small towns where tools and materials are apt to be not of the best. Among tools we may reckon buildings, books, and all kinds of library appliances. The material is the community on which the librarian by proper use of her tools, aims to produce a certain effect.

Now it is open to such a worker to view her task from any one of three different standpoints—to choose, we will say, from three different kinds of librarianship. She may be a librarian of the day before yesterday, of yesterday, or of to-day.

The librarian of the day before yesterday is the librarian of a part of the community. Not only does she make no effort to encourage the use of her

library, but she distinctly discourages certain persons, and certain classes of persons, from entering it. This grade of librarian includes as many kinds as there are persons or classes of the community that may be discouraged. Some, for instance, exclude all the poorly-dressed, or all of inferior social status; others welcome just these and exclude the well-dressed and well-to-do. The philanthropic donor of a city branch library building once waxed very wroth when she saw a carriage standing in front of the building. Her library, she said, was for the poor, not for "carriage people."

These ways of looking at things are sometimes an inheritance from former conditions. A subscription library turned into a free public library hesitates to welcome, all at once, the lower strata that have so long been banished from its doors. On the other hand, a public library that has developed from a charitable foundation regards these as its proper users and looks askance at the well-to-do, as in the case of the good lady with her "carriage people."

When I speak of the exclusion of a class of persons, I do not mean that they are formally kept out or even consciously discouraged; this is why it is so easy to be a librarian of the day before yesterday. That day was a comfortable day; an easy day to be self-satisfied in; it had its libraries for the rich and its libraries for the poor. Some class was always named, even if some were always left out.

It may be that the exclusion operates through features that are in themselves excellent. I have seen, in a small community, a library building so fine, with such an atmosphere of quiet good-taste and so lady-like a librarian, that the great public no more dared to enter therein than if a fierce lion had stood in the doorway. I have known libraries, too, in which the books were too good. Certain classes in the community were not intellectually up to them.

I have also known libraries that

were never used by the foreigners in their communities, or by the colored people. These latter, strange to say, were largely in the North. The South recognizes the Negro and pays him much attention—in its way. It settles his status and sees that it is observed. He has the last four seats on the trolley car and he has his separate library accommodations. In the North he is on an equality with the white man—in everything but reality. He is welcomed to the library in theory and he does not use it in practice. I fear that in this respect too many of us belong to the day before yesterday.

I trust that I have made it clear that the librarian of day-before-yesterday is not a bad librarian. He or she is just a librarian of day before yesterday—that is all.

Now we will step into one Mr H. G. Wells' "Time machines" and take a short spin ahead into yesterday. The librarian of yesterday excludes no one at all from his library; for he is within one step of being up-to-date. He discourages no person nor any class of persons. He stands in his doors with outstretched arms and announces that his library is free to all, that it has books for all—rich and poor, old and young, barbarian, Scythian, bond and free. The selection of books is well thought-out and adapted to the community in which it is. The accommodations are ample and fitting. Everyone is welcome. What more could you ask? Nothing at all; provided you are still in yesterday. Yesterday this sort of library was regarded as the last word in the popularization of the book, and it is indeed a long step in advance of day-before-yesterday. The librarian's material is before him; he has good books; is more needed than this? Yea, verily. One may have a nail and a hammer to drive it; also an egg, and a pan to fry it, yet one cannot fry the egg with the hammer. Some selective action is necessary before we can attain the result that we want. A minister, presiding at a wedding, in which several couples were to be

united at once, read the marriage service and then exclaimed: "I pronounce you men and wives; now you can sort yourselves." The trouble is that things will not "sort themselves;" they must have some one to sort them—and this is what is the matter with the library and the librarian of yesterday. They fail to make connection between the man and the book, so that part of the fine collection remains wholly or relatively unused, and part of the community that it ought to serve remains apart from the library, despite the librarian's outstretched arms and his words of welcome. If he had read his Bible as his great-grandparents used to do, he would have realized that to fill the table at the wedding feast of literature and life a simple invitation sufficeth not. We must go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in. The attitude of passive expectancy, of ability and willingness to serve those who come, was well enough for yesterday, but not for the new library day that has dawned in these United States of America. Apparently the library dawn moves eastward as the physical day moves westward, for over in the mother country only a few lofty peaks are yet gilded by its sunshine. Even in our own land there are gorges where the dusk lingers; there are even grottoes where darkness will always be. But we are mostly in the light. We realize that if we have a book on the dyeing of textile fabrics and if there is an unheeding man in our community who would be helped by that book, all the complacent receptivity that we can muster will not suffice to bring them together. And with this knowledge comes an awakening of conscience. Long ago we stopped crying out "Am I my brother's keeper?" We realize that as members of the community we must bear our share of responsibility for what is done in the community and that collectively we must take measures for the community's welfare. Each of us is a Roman dictator, in that it is our business to see that the Republic suffers no harm. Thus the

community appoints special officers to look out for the interests of its members in certain directions. We public librarians are such officers. We are proud of saying that we stand on the same plane as the teachers in our schools and the professors in our colleges; nay, even a little higher, for the facilities for education over which we preside are offered long after school and college years are over.

Now the teacher does not stand in the doorway and announce that she is willing and ready to instruct all who may so desire in reading, writing and arithmetic—that she has a well-equipped schoolroom, blackboards, globes and textbooks for all who will take advantage of them. Not so; the community goes out and compels its members to take advantage of all these things. In like manner, also, the community makes all sorts of laws for its own preservation and betterment; it does not say "See, here are good laws; come ye who will and obey them." On the contrary it goes out into highways and hedges and sees that all its members obey.

I would not push this analogy too far. No one expects that the community will require that every one within its borders shall use the public library so many times a month, or, indeed that it shall be used at all. The nature of the institution precludes such compulsion. But it should require that every effort be made to see that no section of the books on the library shelves shall lie idle and that no section of the community shall fail to use books, either through ignorance or through doubt of a welcome.

The librarian should say: Here is an unused book. Is it without value in this community? Then let it make place for a better. Has it value? Then why is it not used? Somewhere, in this community, is the man, woman or child, who, whether realizing it or not would derive pleasure or profit, or both from reading it. It is my business to seek out that person.

Again: Here is a man who does not read books. Is this because no book

would appeal to him? Impossible! He may think so, but there lives no one to whom the soul of some fellow man, speaking through the printed page, will not bring a welcome message. Is there such a book on my shelves? If so, it is my business to get it into that man's hands; if not, I must buy, beg or borrow it as soon as I may.

When the librarian has begun to talk in this fashion, lo! the dawn is shining, he is a librarian of to-day. The librarian of to-day frowns on no one, discourages no one; and he stands not passively at his door with open arms. He walks through his library; he walks through his town. He knows the books in one and the dwellers in the other, and he knows both in their relationships, actual and possible. If there are disused books on his shelves or non-readers in his community, it is not because he has made no effort to bring them together; his failures are not those of negligence.

(*To be continued*)

How Many Languages? How Many Cards?

Lodilla Ambrose, New Orleans, La.

The Dial, June 16, 1914, contained an editorial comment on the annual report of a certain public library. Judging from the comment, the report laid particular stress on cataloging work in foreign languages and on the number of cards sometimes prepared in order to catalog a single volume. The comment quotes the statement that one volume of pamphlets had had 243 cards written for it, and asks the pertinent question, "Was the book worth it?"

To that particular question no categorical answer can be made. But to one who has undertaken to administer a library without an adequate catalog, and then later has directed the preparation of a card catalog by using the Library of Congress and the John Crerar Library printed cards on a large scale, the question immediately suggests some considerations which profoundly affect library administration.

The point of view is an important

causal factor in shaping the policy of a library's card catalog. The need of an index to a library, that is, a catalog that is a real guide to its contents, this would seem to be axiomatic, although there are still in this country collections of books called libraries and numbering tens of thousands of volumes which have no catalog to which that name should be given even by courtesy. A few months ago the writer visited a library, and was greeted by the proud statement that the furnishings, including a moderate number of bookcases, cost \$40,000. As she stepped toward an elaborate steel catalog case in mahogany finish to match the furnishings, she was stopped with the remark, "O, the catalog isn't in yet," and the person who said this, announced herself as one of the "li-ba-rians."

Granted the need of a card catalog as axiomatic in a real library, it would seem to be equally axiomatic that any work so expensive and so fundamental as the making of a card catalog should be done first of all from the standpoint of common sense. The test of a machine is function—the amount of work performed in a given time with a given expenditure of energy. If a machine can be reduced in size one-half, or be constructed with half the number of parts, without affecting its capacity to do work, so much the better, saving in space or in expense, or both, will result.

In a library, as in any other concern with a stated object in view, the carrying out of a system for the sake of that system without keeping the end-result constantly in mind, is a thing to be deprecated. In conversation with the writer in a university library Professor Gildersleeve, of Johns Hopkins university, once said, "Let me tell you what I think about library systems. I don't care whether the label on the back of the book is round or square, or what kind of a number it has on it, only so I get my book."

Does the right book reach the right reader at the right time and place? The answer to this question may be taken as a test of library function.

When the writer was making her first

studies in library economy, there were some methods in vogue with high approval, which she studied with curious interest, and decided not to adopt, because they seemed like system carried beyond the point of efficiency. These ways of doing things have since been extensively discarded.

How many cards? A card catalog is a precarious, cumbersome thing to work with at best. The objection is fundamental that cards get lost from the catalog and misplaced in the catalog, and are found only by accident if at all. For, if a card is out of its place, there is nothing to show that a card is missing from that place. With all the advance that has been made in library economy in recent years, this objection has not been overcome. The agent of a vertical filing system (the card catalog idea adapted for business purposes) and a card bookkeeping outfit was discoursing to a business man whom he hoped, of course, to induce to purchase. The head bookkeeper of the firm was called in. His immediate comment was, "But one of those cards would get lost so easily." The head of the firm replied, "You are not paid to lose one of those cards." But nevertheless even with the utmost care those cards do disappear. And sometimes the utmost care is not taken. Consider, for instance, the just grievance of another bookkeeper, who said while waiting his turn in the office of a firm dealing in filing devices, "These cards wouldn't be so bad for accounts, if I could protect them myself; but the head men call for cards containing certain accounts and do not return them." And cards may be missing from the card catalog of a library irrespective of the care taken by the catalogers to have it complete.

A card catalog is not such an easy thing to consult. Even with all the mechanical details—case, sliding shelf, drawer, quality of card stock, number of cards in a drawer, the adjusted slant of the cards, legibility of contents of cards, guides—well worked out, only one card can be read at a time, and varying numbers of cards must be fingered back

and forth before the desired title is found. Librarians and others who work much with card lists of any sort acquire facility in handling these cards, but a card catalog is a trial, a sort of necessary evil to many readers, even to those who are highly educated. Therefore, it is desirable to keep a card catalog as much within bounds as possible. The larger the catalog, the greater the difficulty both in using it and in keeping it in order, and the larger the attendant expense. The minute analysis in the subject catalog of a work whose contents can be fairly represented by one or two general headings is a waste. Some intelligence as to the inter-relation of subjects on the part of readers and on the part of attendants who serve the public is to be assumed in making the catalog. Undue multiplication of entries of whatever sort is a drawback. The common sense as to the entries for a given work is to be found in the answer to the question, "What would a person who wanted what this book contains be likely to look for in the catalog?" In cases of doubt regarding technical works, some expert who frequents the library can usually be appealed to. And the librarian or cataloger who assumes too much knowledge is sure to create a maze of meaningless headings.

Some readjustment in the organization of library staffs might lead to more practical cataloging. As usually found, at least in the large libraries, the catalogers are sequestered with their rules and systems, their bibliographies and dictionaries and cyclopedias—all very necessary—and they spend their days carrying out the system. Quite a different set of people is meeting the readers and endeavoring with varying success to use and to interpret the work of the catalogers. As the catalog is the point of contact between the public and the books, it seems reasonable that those who make it should have some actual association with those who use it. The system should be checked up by experience as to what people really do ask for and what difficulties they have in using the catalog. On the other hand, those

whose chief duty is to use the catalog need some knowledge of how it is made. The writer for some years secured excellent results from a regular interchange between the catalogers and the desk attendants. The catalogers had certain hours at the public desk, and the desk attendants gave a corresponding number of hours in the more elementary work of the catalog department. The change of work with the consequent wider knowledge of the library's activities was welcomed by all members of the staff except one rather timid cataloger who objected to work at the public desk.

In spite of all the advances that have been made in library administration, in spite of all the efforts at coöperation, there seems to be a need of a more practical point of view in regard to library economy and to training for library service. If the catalogers are shut up with their books and the system, the adaptable, inexpensive printed card may be an added temptation to multiply entries entirely beyond the limit of efficiency, and with more regard to statistics than to future readers. As far as statistics are concerned, while reviewing foreign library periodicals during the past year, the writer has observed that some European libraries have entirely abandoned statistics as being a defective and misleading representation of the library's work. The writer once had a cataloger who had a passion for her personal statistics of the number of cards written. The result in multiplied cross references and added entries was fearful and wonderful. As for the practical element in training for librarianship, the following may be considered the *reductio ad absurdum*, but it is true notwithstanding. The newly installed cataloger in a certain library came from a library school of good repute, or she would not have been installed. In her presence some direction was given to the janitor about unpacking a case of new books. She spoke up, "May I see the box before it is unpacked? I've never seen a box of new books." Forthwith she was sent with the assistant who

worked on the orders, and she accompanied the new books through all the processes all the way from the box and the wrappings until they were on the truck beside her own desk ready for cataloging—all evidently to her great delight.

Rules? System? Of course. But not system worked out into a progressive series for the sake of a system or any set of rules. The card catalog of a library is a means to an end. A compact catalog intelligently used by highly trained desk and reading room assistants has a much higher capacity for function than the more elaborated catalog associated with such desk attendants as are often found where the bulk of the library's salary budget has gone to head officials and catalogers.

How many cards? The least number that will make a given book readily available to the person who is likely to want that sort of a book. Every card above this number is a dead weight in the library machine. In other words, just enough cards to get the right book to the right person at the right time and place.

How many languages? The quotation regarding foreign languages made in the comment already referred to, might justify the supposition that the library in question had received a consignment from the American Bible society or the British and Foreign Bible society. These books usually bear their own description in English in fine print, and the sample books of all languages printed by these societies and their catalogs of publications will readily identify any occasional text not so described. And the amount of cataloging required for a Rarotongan New Testament, for example, is in inverse proportion to the rarity of the language. A very simple entry will locate that book quickly, if it is ever called for.

But such exceptional books aside, there is no question of the importance to college and university libraries, and to large public and reference libraries, of having on the staff persons who have a good working knowledge of foreign

languages. But how many? Some time ago the announcement of a certain library appointment was accompanied by the statement that the person appointed could use 15 languages, and the emphasis placed on this fact indicated that this linguistic attainment was considered valuable. As a beginner in library things, the writer was puzzled to understand why certain prominent library positions in this country were filled by persons of foreign birth who spoke English very imperfectly. An eminent librarian was appealed to for an explanation. The reply was, "Foreign languages are needed, and but few Americans will take the pains to acquire them." But, on the other hand, an official memorial note of a cataloger in a large library published not so long ago referred to his "familiarity with nearly a score of languages" merely as "a convenient asset to the library."

How many languages? The John Crerar library is certainly right in declining to consider applications from those who do not offer a working knowledge of French and German. And the requirement is none too high for the library staff of any institution of the higher learning or of any large library used for real reference work. But nevertheless one may try to locate a few references to the *Comptes rendus* of the *Société de Biologie* in some college library, and have the experience of being told that the "*Comptes rendus*" is in the library, and then be shown the *Comptes rendus* of some other society. Or one may find in the "list of periodicals received" posted in the reading room titles as meaningless as the solitary word, "*Zeitschrift*."

The other side to this language requirement is that it means much time and toil to acquire an accurate, ready use of even two foreign languages, and the salaries offered by many libraries may not command the services of persons with this knowledge. This statement is still more probable if a larger number of languages is in question. Practically, with the budgets authorized for many libraries, one may be thankful to get catalogers with just a fair knowledge of

French and German, and desk attendants who can make out titles in these languages when they see them in the catalog or on the backs of books. For the less usual languages one may have to spend one's own spare time outside of the library for years digging them out, or take the chance of putting on record incorrect work in those languages. But here, as in regard to the number of cards for a given work, common sense should intervene, and decide that in a library of general scope a disproportionate amount of time is not to be spent in cataloging books in unusual languages which from that very fact will be asked for but rarely. The time of the library staff is strictly limited, and if one knows how to work out the unusual things, there may be a temptation to do it in detail, and to forget the "every-dayness of this work-day world." For example, there are so many readers who need judicious instruction in the use of the most usual works of reference and some explanation of the card catalog.

How many languages? Every added foreign language known means an increased possibility of effectiveness in handling a varied collection of books, provided the uncommon is not permitted to crowd out the every day needs. As to time spent with rare languages as well as to time spent on numerous cards for a single book, the point of the question in the editorial comment is well taken, "Was the book worth it?"

The earth would smile with noble deeds were it not that many good resolves waste away and vanish because the resolvers are content with merely "going to."

If you have a store of such good, but long-deferred intentions, lingering about the corners of your memory, clear them away by instant resolution. See how many of them you can begin to put in practice this very day.

The tiny good we actually do, is worth a peck of dreamy resolutions. Do today what, all last year, you were "just going to," and all the new year you will scatter blessings.—*Selected*.

Adapting the Classification to the Needs of School Work

Esther M. Davis, librarian, Brooklyn training school for teachers

The proverb of "what is one man's meat is another man's poison" might be applied to the practical working out of a scheme of classification equally suited for all sorts and conditions of libraries. This is especially true of the school library if the books are to be arranged for the convenience of the readers who are usually limited to the teachers and pupils of a particular school.

The success of the school library depends largely upon the skill and ingenuity of the librarian in adapting library methods to meet the needs of the various departments of the school. Books should be arranged on the shelves so that the teachers and pupils may find the material needed with the least possible waste of time. It may be an advantage to take the books from one class and shelve them with the books of a different subject in order to make the scattered resources of the library more accessible to the students of a certain department. Fortunately the Decimal classification is not iron bound. (I am pre-supposing that this system of classification has been generally adopted in the school library.) The freedom and elasticity with which it has been able to meet the constantly changing advance of knowledge for the last 35 years is largely responsible for its general adoption as a basis of library classification. If used with the librarian's imagination and common sense to fit the needs of the special library it is today as adaptable as when first published. Were a better system of classification to be introduced it is doubtful if it would be possible to change from a system as widely and deeply rooted in the libraries of our country as is this Decimal classification.

Changes from the established library customs in the school library must come gradually and only as the librarian becomes familiar with the work of the school through personal contact with the teachers and pupils in the daily routine of school life. In making changes pro-

ceed with great caution. We all know the labor which even slight changes involve. Place the books of the two subjects together, with their classification unchanged. Later the numbers on the books and the various records may be changed if the use of the books in this class justifies the labor. In the case of new books of doubtful classification it may be well to pencil the number on the cards until the permanent location has been decided.

The library shelves of many of the leading colleges and universities bear witness to the fact that changes in the arrangement of books are necessary for the student's library. Reports from many members of our own high school librarians association also testify to the same fact in regard to the school library, if it is to fulfill its highest function and become (as we all hope) the common laboratory and work shop for all departments of the school.

The following changes have been made in the classification in adapting it to the needs of a library in the Brooklyn training school for teachers:

- 150.1 Child-study
- 290 Changed to 398
- B370 Lives of educators (shelved after 370)
- 371.2 Includes 371.5
- Story-telling**
- 398 General collections of stories
- 398.1 Art and theory of story-telling
- 398.2 Fables and nursery rhymes—rid-
dles—songs for young children
- 398.3 Folk-stories
- 398.4 Fairy stories
- 398.9 Mythology
- 398.93 Legends
- "S" Before a class number indicates
stories in that subject: S 598.2
Bird stories, S 599 Animal stories.
Books are shelved directly after
the subject.
- 430-480 Foreign language grammars with
subject in 800
- 531 Applied physics (Includes 608 In-
ventions and 620 Engineering)
- 770 Photography changed to 537.1
- 790 Sports, etc., with 613.7 Physical
training
- 799 Hunting with 599 animals
- 808 Rhetoric changed to 428.2 near
grammar. (400s shelved near the
800s)
- 811 and 821 together in one alphabet
- 814-817 with 824-828

Collections of poetry

- 821.08 General
- 821.05 Nature poetry
- 821.09 Patriotism
- 910.1 Commercial geography (Includes products)
- 913 Changed to D 930. Shelved with history
- "D" Before history class number indicates description or social life.

Library Children

Gertrude Fitch White, children's librarian,
New Haven, Conn.

"Between the dark and the daylight,
When the night is beginning to
lower,

Comes a pause in the day's occupa-
tions,

That is known as the Children's
Hour."

Who is not familiar with this pause?
This pause for which we use all the
preceding hours of the day to get
ready, take aim, (I didn't say fire!) and
all the succeeding hours to recover.

Library children are school children
—yes—but library children give vol-
untary and spontaneous attendance, I
might almost add, to the combustion
point, while with school children at-
tendance is compulsory. So, in our en-
deavor to make all school children into
library children, let us not forget that
the charm in this eagerness to "b'long"
is in keeping it an optional pleasure.
"I have to go to the library," says the
boy or girl who is sent by the teacher.
"I'm going to the library," or, more
often, "Come on to the libr'y," say the
children on pleasure bent.

Then let us keep and jealously guard
our attitude of invitation however
ardently we seek the children through
the schools and teachers, and get them
to want to come instead of insisting
upon their coming.

And the library children not only
come eagerly, joyfully, willingly but
they come numerously, also, and in
place of "grave Alice and laughing Al-
legra, and Edith with golden hair,"
grave Hymies, and laughing Antonios,
and Mikeys with unkempt hair! And
all the Gladyses and Perceys, Issies
and Rosies, and Willy Nillys and

Harum Scarums! Here, all at once,
the very same day, hour and minute.
Day after day, evening after evening.

What has become of our cherished
ideal, Individual attention? It is use-
less to spend the time needed for con-
structing a new and fine ideal in re-
gretting a shattering of the old—but
is it a shattering? Is it not, rather,
an outgrowing? For surely we have
been striving to attract "all the chil-
dren of all of the people" with our
special lists, story hours, school depart-
ments, class room libraries and all the
other tentacles of a library; and now
that our efforts have been attended by
some measure of success and we have
secured some of the children of all of
the people, or all of the children of
some of the people, and they swarm to
the library at the close of school, Group
recognition has succeeded individual
attention.

Types, grades, tastes and stages of
development all play their part in de-
termining the group each child natu-
rally or unconsciously enters. It is our
effort to make each child in the crowd
feel that he is not lost in the crowd,
but that he is understood. That even
tho' the library people are very busy,
they have anticipated his individual
taste and have provided for his own
satisfaction in this "land of Story
Books" and "Other books"—their own
classification, and what wise classifier
can give us a better?

If we're very small, (and that means
very young) we see by picture books
and "easy books" that you know what
we like, and we find little tables and
chairs just our size, for you expected
us to come. And if we almost believe
in fairies, here they are, right here,
having a way of their own in making
themselves known (or felt?).

If we're boys with savage instincts
(childhood of the race idea), we find
plenty of encounters with wild beasts
and Indians, and when we begin to be
civilized, Oh, then we read and read
and read school stories because they
are so athletic!

And then we read about men and
their real adventures and real achiev-

ments. Some of us like things to make and do, 'specially with electricity, if we may take a story book too.

We girls like just stories, you know, about girls at boarding school. I've read these. Haven't you any more?

The fact that library children seek their level is one of the greatest factors in our group recognition. They are quick to seize upon their own unrestricted by their ability in arithmetic and geography. What has the child found that makes him sink down in a heap on the floor, unmindful of the hundred and more seats? What is it that has the power so to hold the child that he concentrates his attention and reads oblivious of the fact that he is surrounded by crowds of children and perhaps several observing normal school students? Is it text book? Look again.

Yes, Tony still grasps the red-covered book no matter what the text until he finds for himself that color isn't everything; and the tiny tot too frequently says, "My mother'll hit me if I take a too easy book," (her mother!). But, some way, some how, the great majority of library children seek and find that which answers to some particular call, however fleeting.

With the Three Bears classification applied to children, Great big, Middle-sized, Little tiny ones, there can always be something in picture and in print for the vision and intellect of each child in these groups.

In Pictures	{	The old and familiar; like Mother Goose illustrations.
		New and inciting to further interest: like Panama Canal.
		Fanciful or ideal: like Aurora, Sir Galahad.

A choice selection for permanent wall decoration, and a large collection to draw from for the ever changing bulletins.

In Print	{	Rhyme or jingle
		Verse or poem
		Speech
		Information or
		Fact

Not omitting something ringing with patriotism for the American in the making.

Another point of contact comes while we are answering as many questions as possible and hastily selecting and hurriedly directing, for there are such non-time consuming forms of recognition as a nod, a word, a glance, a smile—all instantaneously given and as readily interpreted. And who can describe that delightfully satisfying encouragement when one child in the throng, boy as often as girl, sends you in passing that swift glance of appreciation, showing a perfect comprehension of the situation. For then we know that the child understands us.

Fortunately, the attention to one in a group is considered by the others as being indirectly to them.

How often two or three little friends will voice in unison the wants of the speechless one. So, they understand us when we invert the order of the digits and minister to one.

In many more ways, yet in ways I know not how to express, the library children feel that they are understood and ministered unto. However floor-walker-like the "Lib'ry Teacher" may feel when surrounded by many children and however wholesale may seem her direction and advice, still, when she can find a moment to get a perspective and reflect, (like writing a C. L. A. paper), then, she can be still and know that even children in throngs are satisfying, because they themselves are satisfied.

And now that "my story's done," let me prophesy—

The children's library "In the High and Far-Off Times, O Best Beloved," will have talking machines to speak forth the oft repeated stereotyped phrases; mirrors to reflect the farthermost corners; flash-light signs to show where the religious books are. And the children's librarian will be a ventriloquist! She can, without moving, and so that others cannot hear, tell "Tom, Dick and Harriet" in their re-

mote part of the room to "whisper as they do in school!"

She will have two heads (one level), four hands, three feet, two hearts (both warm, one soft), one more sense, and no nose. And, withal, she must "get a hunch." Kipling may yet tell her how.

Like a Burden or Refrain

It was the morning after the inauguration of one of our professors; the evening had been one of honor, the faculty and instructors making an impressive sight in their academic gowns, and the professor himself doing honor to our institution. The assistant librarian, I myself, can give an on-looker's view, for, doing as I was bidden, I had sat somewhere (which was "anywhere") at the back of the hall, although, by virtue of office and training, I felt my right to be in the processional. And that is why the following morning I woke, plunged, ate, talked, rode to the library to the insistent question:

Can I continue to "sit anywhere?"

Work is salutary; and, as the routine of the day, together with several incidents, pointed out to me anew the fact that I am the assistant in a library worthy its recognized standing among the smaller libraries of the country and yielding good hours, adequate salary and vacation, my torment of the evening and the morning seemed foolish, and was slinking away when some one said to me: "You there last evening! I did not think of your sitting anywhere but on the platform." A thoughtless remark, in truth, but it set to ringing again the question:

Can I continue to "sit anywhere?"

The question was crescendo when my chief, the director of the library, came in. He is, indeed, "a gentleman and a scholar," and many a well-known man rejoices to be among "his boys." He gives me much responsibility, and it is worth while to so work as to gain his confidence and appreciation; therefore, why do I permit the singing of this gnat-like question:

Can I continue to "sit anywhere?"

A week has gone by and I have thought the matter through to this conclusion: that, as it is understood that this institution will not give the office of librarian to a woman, and seldom gave official recognition to my predecessor, who most acceptably acted as librarian the last years of her service; as the compensations are large in opportunity for professional growth, and in intercourse with fine and delightful persons among faculty and students; and as it is my plan in the near future to return to the library school for the finishing year of the course, it IS possible for me to remain here even at the cost of

Continuing to "sit anywhere."

Five months had gone by, the last one bringing the opening exercises and again the processional of faculty and associates of the institution. To my dismay, on being again omitted, I found that my thought through conclusion had gone as completely as the months themselves, leaving me still "kicking against the pricks" and unwilling to

Continue to "sit anywhere."

A vent for my feelings seemed imperative to me and after much thought I gave the following request to the President: "That the person holding the position of assistant or acting librarian shall be assigned a seat in the body of the chapel, and shall wear the academic gown at official gatherings of the institution in recognition of the office; and shall receive equal recognition at other official gatherings. Signed by the present assistant librarian. . . ." Whether or no my vent was a safe one, I did not know but the President's official and appreciative reply granting the request has come and thus neither my successors nor I will have to

Continue to "sit anywhere."

LIBRARIAN.

A Reviewer Reviewed

To the Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Your reviewer of Professor Buck's Bibliography, in your November issue (p. 392), seems to give scant credit. In the first place, there are three complete bibliographies in the volume, while your

reviewer speaks only of the one which gives the cover-title. In the second place, Professor Buck did not, as I understand, restrict himself to the fifteen libraries mentioned (your reviewer speaks of "14 important libraries"; I wonder which one of the fifteen he does not consider "important"?), but searched everywhere for his material.

The work exhibits such an accuracy of transcription and arrangement, such a thoroughness of research, and such a clearness of comprehension in the introductions and notes that it may well stand as a model bibliography.

A. H. S.

Reference Books for Small Libraries

In a recent teachers' journal, a librarian, in reply to a question, answered as follows:

The school library that can afford but little money for reference books, should buy the best recent encyclopedia.

She then recommends an encyclopedia of 24 volumes, costing \$120, an average of \$5 apiece. Is this good library economy?

SMALL LIBRARY.

[As this letter does not give the name of the encyclopedia, nor the normal school librarian who made the answer, the question is simply stated here, and normal school librarians or other libraries are invited to send answers according to their judgment for use in PUBLIC LIBRARIES.]

Free Post for Library Books

A bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Green of Iowa, amending the postal law to permit the sending of books free of charge by public libraries, and their return to the libraries, on rural routes running out of towns with such libraries.

The benefits of a law of this kind are too great to need pointing out, nor is it too much to say that the money expended for this purpose by the government would be far and away a wiser investment toward making rural communities more attractive as dwelling places than

twice the amount that is spent in commission investigations and the preparation of long dissertations by people who are looking at the problem from a point entirely outside their experience.

Librarians should write to their congressmen, asking support for the bill, at an early date. If action is delayed, as doubtless it will be, congressmen should not be allowed to forget nor neglect a measure for want of a reminding word by those whose duty it is to be vitally interested in the proposition.

IOWA LIBRARIAN.

A Library Exhibit

Dear PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I think you may be interested to know that a library exhibit has been held at a fair in the "Land of Poco Tiempo." At the Northern New Mexico fair, held at Raton, N. M., the Raton public library had an exhibit that proved very interesting.

We had a space at the entrance to the school exhibits. We were offered space with the schools, but preferred the one just outside, as we wished to reach everybody, those not interested in schools as well as those who are. A case was filled with books of interest to farmers, their wives and children. Many picture bulletins, with related book lists, adorned the wall, and trite phrases and sentences drawing attention to the resources of the library were placed in attractive glass card supports.

The particular object of the exhibit was to bring before all Colfax County residents the fact that they could use the Raton public library by paying a very small fee. We have the only library in the county, so you see our field is large. Hand bills stating the fact that the library is accessible to all residents of the county were distributed every day during the fair.

We had printed lists of Western books, history and travel as well as fiction, lists of books of interest to the farmer and his wife, and graded lists for the children. An attendant was present most of the time and distributed these lists among the visitors.

A large sign, with the name of the library printed on it, was stretched across the aisle above our exhibit, to attract visitors to us.

The results have been most gratifying. Several residents of neighboring towns have taken out cards, and many more have become interested and expect to register soon.

MYRTLE M. COLE,
Librarian.

Preaching and Practice

A "Better babies" contest was held in St. Joseph, Mo., the week of December 7. The Public library of St. Joseph contributed, prepared and distributed "Better babies" lists, which included books on all phases of child life.

A note from the librarian later says:

Sometimes library babies are better babies. One of ours is. Allison won highest score in 30 to 40 months class at the "Better babies" contest here. Over 200 babies were examined. There were three classes and she won in the third year class.

The newspaper reports give Allison's record as: 99.8. One can accordingly agree with the proud father's boast on such a record as that!

x x x x x

A Suggestion Full of Possibilities

A letter from Director Barr contains the following:

I have just been notified by the Department of Special Events that June 8, 1915, has been designated as "American Library Association Day" at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. I am very sure it will be possible to make this day one of the most interesting of the Exposition period.

Very sincerely yours,

JAS. A. BARR,

Director of Congresses.

Exposition Building,
San Francisco, Cal.

In a recent letter concerning what is to be termed "National education association day," on the Exposition grounds at San Francisco next summer, the following possible features are suggested, with a request for other plans for making that day a memorable one.

With a little change, the same plans might be followed for the librarians:

1) Wherever the state has a building on the grounds, and 40 of them will have such buildings, that building should keep open house for the state teachers and their friends that day. Provision for hall accommodations can be made in those cases where there are no buildings.

2) It should be publicly announced over the state that the educational interests are joining with the State exposition commission in receiving that day.

3) There might be some special features at the state building during the morning. Surely a live reception committee should be on hand to diffuse the "homey feeling."

4) Provision might be made for a "state excursion" to some special exhibit.

5) The committees could plan for exchange of visits between delegations.

6) There might very possibly be a brief session of the State teachers' association. All members present would welcome such a meeting. The Alumni teachers' association of the respective state universities might also plan for a brief session.

7) Everything possible should be done to make the teachers feel at home in their state building.

8) The afternoon should be kept free for a great reception to be given in the California state building, the host building of the exposition.

The Director of Congresses will send out the Exposition "Fact book" to any one wishing it, and its information is reliable and ought to be helpful. Transportation and living costs are given, as well as several side trips, with the costs, together with information concerning places of interests, etc.

A survey listing exhibits which will be especially interesting, and illustrated with maps showing how various exposition entrances may be reached from the hotel district, location of exhibits on the grounds and in the various exhibition palaces, will be issued.

No. 1, Vol. 1, Wanted

The H. W. Wilson Company has for some time been endeavoring to secure a copy of Vol. I, No. 1, of *New York Libraries* in order to complete a file for binding. Any one having a copy of this number to dispose of will confer a favor upon the company by corresponding with them.

Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau - - - - - Publishers

M. E. AHERN - - - - - Editor

Subscription - - - - - \$2 a year

Five copies to one library - - - \$8 a year

Single number - - - - - 25 cents

Foreign subscriptions - - - - \$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Coöperation—A large number of libraries issued this year a list of children's books for Christmas gifts.

If the public took as much interest in the lists after they are published, as the librarians took care and effort in preparing them, then it would seem that a very decided improvement in the kind of children's books generally presented as Christmas gifts might be in evidence.

The Minnesota library commission prepared a very good list and offered to send reprints, with space for the name of the libraries ordering them, to any library that wished to have them. This saved work in a good many cases. A number of libraries are engaged in this truly coöperative work, which is a very reasonable thing to do, as it saves time and effort, which are very much needed in other directions, instead of all libraries doing the same thing.

A bit of commendable coöperative work was the issuance of a list of books,

documents and articles on "Country life problems," compiled by the Tacoma and Seattle public libraries, and financed by the school superintendents of several of the counties and the State educational association.

An exhibit of Christmas books was another sort of coöperative work in various parts throughout the country where booksellers bought from lists suggested by the libraries and called attention to the fact that the libraries had suggested them, while the libraries called attention to the fact that certain dealers had lists of books suitable for purchase.

Librarians in literary work—Since the early days of librarians in America, and always in England, the librarians have presented to the public results of their own literary effort, taken up, oftentimes, as a serious business, but more frequently as a side line, an expression of their own mentality.

By this is not meant the purely library material that has been written by Mr Dana, Dr Richardson, Mr Fletcher, Mr Green and others, but imaginative, historical and descriptive writing on general topics. Such work as Dr Winsor produced, of course, is unique.

What seems to be an extraordinarily good translation of a most delightful novel of universal interest, written by a Norwegian, with the scene of the story laid in Norway, has recently appeared. Miss Hester Coddington, of the University of Wisconsin library, made the translation and this leads to the remark that a number of those who are, or have been enlisted in library service, are at present adding to the glory of their work the lustre that comes from literary activity. Some of the efforts are not so extended as Miss

Coddington's work, but are, nevertheless, of a very high degree.

Among these might be mentioned the recent pamphlet on "What makes a novel immoral?" by Corinne Bacon, formerly director of Drexel Institute library school, now connected with the H. W. Wilson Company. The pamphlet is a revised form of what was originally an address before a library meeting, and was afterwards printed in various publications, and aroused a wide interest. It has been discussed by such papers as the *Boston Transcript*, *Springfield Republican*, *New York Times* and others.

Frances Jenkins Olcott, founder and for 13 years, director, of the Pittsburgh training school for children's librarians, is now entirely occupied by her literary work, and is under contract that will keep her engaged for some time. (See p. 476.)

Among those who are making notable contributions on other than library subjects, are Lodilla Ambrose, former librarian of Northwestern university, (see p. 409); Edna Bullock, Katherine B. Judson, Asa Don Dickinson and others. Mary Wright Plummer, of course, won her place as a writer of exquisite poetry a long time since.

A very interesting little volume of essays on religious topics is that under the title, "The Unknown God," by Jacob Piatt Dunn, president of the Indiana library commission, at one time state librarian of Indiana.

His writings on questions of political economy and American politics have long been considered authoritative. Mr Dunn has made careful and wide study of these subjects, and as an editorial writer, he long occupied a place in the fore-front of Indiana's well known company of such writers.

His "Stories of the Indians," his "Massacres of the mountains," and "Indiana" in the Commonwealth series, are well and favorably known. His contribution on religious topics, therefore, comes as somewhat of a surprise, as a man engaged in political discussion is not generally found at the same time to be a close student of the Bible and the beliefs which have generally emanated from its doctrines.

In the period from 1889 to 1894, Mr Dunn was well known in the meetings of the American library association, where his keen sense of humor and ready wit relieved many a tedious discussion, both in the general and the piazza conferences.

There are others who are also making contributions in U. S. while L. J. Burpee with his numerous really valuable historical works, G. H. Locke and others in Canada reflect literary honor on the library profession.

Events of all sorts creep or fly exactly as God pleases.—Cowper

The year 1914 in library service will be remarkable more for the efficacy of individual effort and local development than for matters of general moment to the craft in general.

The preparation and installment of the A. L. A. exhibit at Leipzig was the leading event of general interest. Second to that, perhaps sharing the interest equally, and exceeding it in importance, was the application of the parcel post service for book distribution, something for which librarians had been asking for a considerable time.

The death roll includes the names of a number who have made distinct contributions to library service, among whom may be mentioned Katharine L. Sharp, long at the head of library effort

in Illinois; Frank A. Hutchins, father of library service in Wisconsin; W. C. Kimball, who occupied a similar position in New Jersey; and in foreign countries, Haakon Nyhuus, librarian of Christiania, who gave impetus for modern library service to Norway, and Dr Lunsted, of the Royal library of Stockholm, who did similar service for Sweden, and who supported strongly the advanced ideas of Dr Palmgren in her work for popular library service in Stockholm. The death of James Duff Brown, of England, noted author of library literature, marked a great loss to the library service of England.

The war in Europe, of course, has interfered with library work in every way, and the destruction and scattering of library material in various towns which have suffered attack, belongs to the sad record of the year.

Locally, a number of events of more or less importance might be mentioned.

The establishment of a library school at the State library of California will certainly mark the beginning of still further advancement of library work in that state, which is already a model in many phases of its library service.

The closing of Drexel Institute library school marked a step backward in library service in Pennsylvania.

In Illinois, the very decided progress made in state library service gives cause for congratulations and a hope that in the near future Illinois will step up into the class in which she may justly claim a place, but which, on account of her backwardness in library service, has been denied her.

One would like to chronicle a much needed revision of the A. L. A. constitution, proposed by the committee appointed last summer to prepare and pre-

sent such a revision at the Midwinter meeting of the Council, but up to date nothing has been done in the matter. This is hardly a surprise, since the chairman chosen for this committee is well known as a conservative in accord with the committee which reported at Bretton Woods adversely to any further revision of the constitution. This in itself is perhaps a slight matter, but it marks another step away from the original democratic spirit with which the association was endowed in the beginning.

Taken all in all, the year 1914 in library service does not rise above the level, though, as said before, here and there, individual libraries attained a larger degree of success in their efforts, and also here and there partisan politics, personal ambition and unintelligent consideration have been handicaps. Even the splendid work of the Newark, N. J., public library was made to feel the pressure of lack of appreciation of what it was doing.

But the New Year opens up with new opportunities, and to use an illustration afforded by the present sad state of affairs in Europe, "A battle may be lost, but the war is not ended!"

Finishing a score.—This number of **PUBLIC LIBRARIES** begins the twentieth volume of the series. It is a long way back to the beginning of the first volume, measured by the progress of library work, and yet it seems not more than a quarter of the time since the first efforts to present such a journal of library activity as **PUBLIC LIBRARIES** has tried to be, were made.

At the time **PUBLIC LIBRARIES** was founded, there was but one other periodical devoted exclusively to library matters in existence. Its management viewed

with dismay the effort to start another journal of the kind, predicting disaster for both. The argument of PUBLIC LIBRARIES was that there was room for another library periodical at a less price, appealing to a wider circle of readers by reason of its practical ideas, its coöperative purposes, and its more democratic address, sent out from a locality more central in its connections.

Time has proved all these contentions true. PUBLIC LIBRARIES has not only made a place for itself, but has made better conditions for other library periodicals, judged by the number that have come into existence and by the gradual reduction in price made possible for the older periodical, a thing declared utterly impossible twenty years ago.

There were only two or three states then giving aid to library extension. Now there are 37. There were not more than a half-dozen library organizations and none of them were vigorous. The meeting of the A. L. A., in the year previous to starting PUBLIC LIBRARIES, had an attendance of 147. The starting of PUBLIC LIBRARIES was a pet scheme of the A. L. A. administration elected at that meeting, and the first work of PUBLIC LIBRARIES was to boom the 1896 meeting. The attendance that year was the largest in the history of the association, and it has continued to grow ever since. There are now five other groups of librarians with national organizations. There are more than 70 local library organizations holding annual or monthly meetings with an estimated membership of more than 6,000.

The A. L. A. has established permanent headquarters, extended its activities and is steadily increasing in both its endeavors and the means of carrying on the same.

These are some of the things that have taken permanent form in the past twenty years. There are others that might be mentioned.

Without boasting, PUBLIC LIBRARIES can claim to have been effective in helping these things to grow. Without an idea of reward, with no ultimate object but the purpose expressed, the endeavor has been to contribute to better library service in every locality. That this has been done, there is abundant evidence. That it has been a joy to do this, is also true, and hope and trust are strong in the belief of still better things to come. There is deep gratitude to the friends who have made these things possible and a firm resolution to continue the effort to serve wherever opportunity opens.

Mr Ernest Kletsch, of the Library of Congress, writes the chairman of the A. L. A. committee that he has heard that the A. L. A. exhibit obtained first prize, (Staadtspreis) at the Leipzig exposition.

While no official information has been received, Mr Kletsch has been in close touch with the Leipzig exposition authorities, and his information would likely be correct.

This item gives opportunity to say that Mr Kletsch, who was in Leipzig in behalf of the Library of Congress exhibit, rendered most valuable service to the committee and those in charge of the A. L. A. exhibit in its installment, and in creating a spirit of friendliness towards it in the book circles of Leipzig.

Dr E. C. Richardson, librarian of Princeton university, has added a second volume to "Beginnings of libraries," under the title, "Biblical libraries." The first volume covered the legendary prehistoric and primitive period down to 34 B. C. "Biblical libraries" takes up

the matter at this point, and brings it down to the beginning of the Christian era. Dr Richardson, in his preface, calls attention to the mistaken notion that some readers have expressed as to the author's own belief in the absurd theories which were set out in the former volume. He calls attention to the fact that the things stated were so absurd on the face that the author had not thought it necessary to say so. Librarians will find these two volumes of interest.

Report of Library of Congress

The report of the Library of Congress for the year ending June 30, 1914, reviews in a way the development of the library from an early day down to the present, bringing out very clearly the remarkable work that has been done in building up the library with the extremely small funds appropriated for that purpose.

When the library moved to the new building in 1897, its collection comprised about 850,000 printed volumes and pamphlets, and the staff was only 42 persons. The present librarian took office in 1899. The force had increased from 42 to 130, exclusive of those in care of the building itself, but little progress had been made in the equipment or in the arrangement of the material.

The appropriations for the purchase of material have advanced from that time from \$30,000 to substantially \$100,000; the number of employes from 130 to 385. The organization has been improved by the creation of divisions for specialized service, or for the treatment of material special in form and character.

There is now a collection of over 2,000,000 v., and 1,000,000 other items, manuscripts, maps, reports and prints, and the library is in size third among the collections of the world. While many valuable collections in special fields have been acquired, many desirable opportunities have been allowed of necessity to be passed.

The organization of this collection for use has made great progress. The major part is now arranged by subject upon the

shelves, and cataloged to meet the needs of the investigator. The facilities for access and use of material within the building and the development of a service to non-resident investigators, are shown to be in a high degree satisfactory also.

The library has been able to meet the appeals made to it by committees and individual members of Congress for lists of books and articles upon given subjects, but the appeal is often not for books, but for a "statement." That particular kind of work cannot be done without a corps of experts along the various lines which are not at present in the employ of the library.

A very animated discussion of the efforts to take care of the Legislative reference service by the library is discovered in the recital of the movement and its treatment by the Library of Congress up to the present time. The bills and reports in Congress on the Legislative reference bureau are set out in Appendix IV.

The question of salaries and the efforts that have been made to provide suitable appropriations for the various activities, from the librarian's office to the contingent expenses, does not reflect a liberal policy on the part of the Congressional committees.

The report on the accessions of important gifts by the library is most interesting. Among these may be named the collection of Semitica given by Jacob H. Schiff; bound volumes of early Massachusetts newspapers and first editions of popular books, by Martha C. Codman; also various catalogs of special collections throughout the country. Various purchases are noted, in Chinese literature, particularly, and the Dobell collection of privately printed books. The field of history and related subjects also received particular attention, as well as books on the fine arts. Desirable additions were made to the collection of early printed books, incunabula of the sixteenth century and later century imprints.

Exchanges with other libraries added volumes of newspapers from various

parts of the country, of a commercial value exceeding the entire cost of maintaining the exchange and transfer service throughout the year. There were 12,256 v. of these, many of them of high value.

The Division of manuscripts records a large collection from the families of various public and private citizens that have been prominent in national affairs.

The total number of volumes cataloged during the year was 102,900, of which 78,422 were new accessions. The number of subscribers to printed cards increased from 1,852 to 1,986. The cash sales of cards, including subscriptions to proof sheets, amounted to \$54,738.

The expenditures for the Copyright department were considerably less than the net amount of fees earned and turned into the Treasury, and in addition to this profit a large number of the books, maps, prints and other articles deposited were of substantial pecuniary value.

Uniform Statistics

The A. L. A. Council has sent out a circular to librarians submitting a schedule for uniform statistics, and rules for counting circulation. An accompanying letter from Secretary Utley asks a prompt response as to whether the libraries will agree to print their annual report on the proposed forms, and what modification of the form is deemed necessary or desirable. The matter will be discussed at the midwinter Council meeting.

Eastern College Libraries Conference

The Conference of Eastern college librarians was held at Columbia university, New York City, Saturday, November 28. There were 47 registered in attendance.

The morning session, with Mr Hicks in the chair, opened with a paper by Mr Heald of Harvard, dealing with the question, "Can university and college libraries adopt a uniform system for securing statistics of size, growth and use?" A long discussion ended in the

appointment of a committee to present a resolution to the A. L. A. Council urging the preparation of a uniform schedule.

Mr Raney, of Johns Hopkins, gave a history of dissertations and their bibliographies, followed by a discussion of their treatment and possible coöperation in their cataloging. No definite action was taken.

Miss Clark of Smith College library opened the discussion on uniformity in requests for inter-library loans, and told of her attempts to attain it.

Dr Richardson moved that the need be called to the attention of the A. L. A. Council.

Mr Hicks led the discussion on the effect which changes in methods of instruction have on college and university library problems. New courses, reading assignments, increase of students, necessitate close touch of the librarian with the faculty.

On the topic, "Printed bibliographies as substitutes for analytical cards in university library catalogs," Miss Mudge outlined a plan to be tried at Columbia. This plan will probably require the time of an assistant in the reference department to handle the bibliographies.

Mr Keogh of Yale in discussing the future of the subject card catalog, maintained that the consensus of opinion among college librarians seemed to be that both here and in analytical work printed bibliographies must to some extent take the place of the card catalog.

On Friday evening, the librarians and their friends were received by Mr George A. Plimpton at his home, where his collection of books illustrating the history of education was shown. There were about 30 present. The evening proved most enjoyable. Mr Plimpton has a wonderful collection, comprising many rare manuscripts and some unique books. He has the only considerable collection of hornbooks in America.

Mr Hicks was made secretary-treasurer for the coming year, and Mr Koopman of Brown, and Dr Richardson of Princeton, were appointed to serve with him as a committee for the next meeting.

Library Meetings

Chicago.—The December meeting of the Chicago library club was held December 10. The subject of the evening was "Recent books of interest," and was discussed by five speakers on a variety of topics.

Miss Faith E. Smith of the Chicago public library, on "Letters of a woman homesteader"; Mr E. D. Tweedell of the John Crerar library, on Ross' "The old world in the new"; Miss Thain of the Oak Park public library, on Barrie's "Half hours"; Miss Furness of the John Crerar library, on "Prisons and prisoners," by Constance Lytton and Jane Warton, spinster; and Mr G. B. Utley of the A. L. A., on R. L. Stevenson's "Cruise of the 'Janet Nichol'," gave illuminating notes in brief compass which served to indicate for those of all tastes how some of the suggestions on the "Librarians' reading," discussed at the November meeting could be carried out. Miss Massee of the *Booklist* closed the discussion by some trenchant remarks and an exhortation as to that publication.

Colorado.—The Colorado library association held its twenty-second annual meeting at the Denver public library, Nov. 24-25.

Mr Chalmers Hadley, the president, called the meeting to order and the first session began with a presentation of the activities of the State library, the Traveling library commission, and the Colorado library commission, each by the one having the work in charge. The State library has been rearranged, shelf-listed and a beginning effected for a practical working library for the legislature. The Traveling library commission is suffering from lack of funds. A new library law is needed to place this work in appropriations of the second class at least and the State library commission has promised to aid in bringing this about.

The next topic was a very timely one, "Books and the war," by Mr Appell, a well known book dealer of Denver. One important effect which every library feels and must meet is the increased de-

mand for books on the recent history and present conditions of Europe. Mr Appell offered a list of six "best books" on the subject: Cramb, Germany and England; Hart, The war in Europe; Oxford Professors, Why we are at war; Usher, Pan-Germanism; Von Bernhardt, Germany and the next war; Von Bülow, Imperial Germany. The program for the afternoon closed with a discussion of "The librarian and the trustee," by Miss Wilson, librarian at Greeley, and Mrs Carlson, president of the Library board at Eaton.

The evening session was made very delightful by an address by Mr Pershing of Denver on "Fifteenth century books and printing." The great activity in printing which began immediately after the invention of the printing press was emphasized and the excellent quality of binding, print, and paper was illustrated by the books which Mr Pershing exhibited from his own library. A trio of entertainers gave Lady Gregory's play, "The workhouse wards," which with the musical numbers and the social hour which followed gave much pleasure.

The program on Wednesday was a very helpful one to librarians. The following subjects were presented: "Wider use of the college library," "The library as a community center," "The library from the patron's viewpoint," and "The High-school library as it is and is not." Lively discussions followed each paper and a spirit of mutual helpfulness was prevalent, especially when the meeting was thrown open to all for three-minute contributions. Members of half a dozen different libraries over the state gave helpful hints.

The sessions were attended by 50 or more and there were 200 at the evening entertainment. The following officers were elected for next year: President, Albert F. Carter, librarian of the State Teachers' college; vice-president, Mrs Anna Duffield, librarian, Loveland public library; secretary-treasurer, Helen Ingersoll, librarian, Woodbury branch, Denver public library; council, C. Henry Smith and Charlotte A. Baker.

FAITH FOSTER, Secretary.

Indiana—The twenty-third annual meeting of the Indiana library association was held November 11-12 at Indianapolis, with the largest attendance in the history of the association. More than 300 librarians and trustees were in attendance, besides many others who announced themselves as friends of the association.

The business sessions of the Indiana trustees' association and the Indiana library association were held separately, but all the other meetings were joint ones.

On Wednesday morning, the business session of the Indiana library association was held, at which the reports of the committees and the reports of the secretary and treasurer were received.

The advisability of a tri-state meeting for 1915, with the place of meeting at French Lick, was discussed but no conclusion was reached.

On Wednesday afternoon the College and reference librarians' round table was in charge of Alice M. Dougan, of Purdue university. Miss Cleland, of Indianapolis, spoke of the *Bulletin for public information service*. The State library subscribes for this and other libraries may use it through the State library. It contains the latest information about municipal and legislative affairs. The State library also has a list of associations and their publications, which will be passed on to small libraries on inquiry. Debate material, club work and reference work by post, are also among the activities of the State library. Application for assistance should be made as early as possible, and a second choice of material should be given, as it often happens that the material desired is in use, and therefore not available.

Mr Lindley gave an account of the Historical department of the State library. It can no longer be truthfully said that Wisconsin has a better store of information concerning Indiana than Indiana has at the present time. There is kept on file as far as possible one newspaper from each county in

the state, copies of every book written about Indiana or by a resident of Indiana. Manuscript copies of documents, letters, diaries, etc., having any bearing upon Indiana, are desired, and librarians are asked to use their influence towards securing such material throughout the state, to be deposited in the State library. The State library also keeps lists of rare historical material in other libraries, and desires the cooperation of other libraries in the state regarding such material.

Clara Hadley, librarian of the Manual training high school at Indianapolis, spoke of the great interest taken by the pupils in the library.

Miss Gilmore, of DePauw university, spoke of helping students to understand reference books.

A difference of opinion was called forth as to the value of student assistants. Better pay for more efficient assistants was the consensus of opinion.

A round table for library assistants was in charge of Miss McKay, of the Evansville public library.

Miss Peters, of Gary, opened the meeting by a talk on "Raising the standards." She emphasized the need of professional study, professional reading and professional interest. She spoke of the value of preparation, and gave the reasons why it was even more essential than it was a few years ago, when the older librarian gained ground through experience, while for the younger generation there is no short cut to it. Miss Peters said that in the routine of the library it is necessary to keep in touch with what is being done in one's own line of work, to read the library periodicals and books of a more serious nature. The fiction reading will take care of itself. She emphasized the value of attending library meetings, and added that every person who is on a library staff in the state should belong to the Indiana library association.

Miss Ohr, of the Indianapolis public library, in speaking of what an assistant may expect of a librarian, said that a librarian to whom his staff turns

in any perplexity for advice, who has the gift of dealing with his staff with such transparent honesty that they have no feeling of hesitancy in seeking an opportunity to discuss their work on even terms without running the risk of being misunderstood, is pretty sure to receive more effort than the contract calls for, and is sure of devoted service in time of need. The librarian is the business manager of the concern, while the assistant is the medium between the public and the library. The assistant hears the praise, the blame, criticism of all kinds of the public. She is therefore in a position to become acquainted with their needs and demands, and should have the sympathy and ready cooperation of the librarians in the endeavor to anticipate these demands.

Miss Adamson, of Terre Haute, said that upon the assistant the efficiency of the library largely depends. She teaches the public to use the library to the best advantage, and upon her ability depends the reputation of the library.

Lelah Trees, of the Kokomo public library, gave a delightful talk on "Getting the customer's point of view in your service."

Vivian Ream, of the Public library of Peru, gave a practical talk on "Keeping work within reach." She emphasized the value of spare moments at the loan desk, and having the personal desks of the assistants in a small library so placed and equipped as to save steps and time.

Miss Sturgis of the Ft. Wayne public library, in discussing "Staff team work," arranged the library staff upon the base ball diamond, saying that in watching a game everyone has noticed the unity of purpose with which the members of the team play—that there is just one idea in the minds of the player, and that is—win the game. Miss Sturgis pointed out that the goal in library work should be "Reach the public," and that before reaching the goal there were other bases to be touched by the members of the team. Among these she accented loyalty and cooperation.

Miss Jaynes of Evansville gave some helpful suggestions on "Hours of desk service."

On Wednesday evening, J. I. Wyer, Jr., director of the New York state library, gave a lecture to a large audience which tested the capacity of the hall, on "Libraries versus luxuries."

He divided his talk into three parts; advice to the librarian, the trustee and the public. He laid great emphasis on the necessity of librarians and trustees attending library meetings. He pointed out the value of these meetings to librarians, and said it was absolutely necessary that there should be a complete understanding between the librarian and the trustee.

He said the ideal trustee was the active business or professional man, widely acquainted in the city, open-minded, free from prejudice and political pledge, competent to choose a librarian and then leave her to manage the library.

The public library is not now a luxury, but an absolute necessity for the advancement of the public. Politics should not be allowed to enter into library and school life, and on no account should the work of a political machine enter into its government.

Mr Wyer pointed out the value of adequate funds for the library, and said the way to get them is to run such a good library that the people will be glad to pay. Mr Wyer cited the amount of money spent on liquors, soda, chewing gum, movies, cigars and cigarettes, and said that no country that spent as much as the United States on luxuries has the right to question the establishment of more schools and libraries.

He spoke of the enormous waste that comes from discarding good and becoming clothes, pointing out the various forms of clothing which might be classed as useless luxuries, adding that in the days of our grandmothers, women wore out their clothes, and consequently they did not have, as they did not need, as much closet room as is necessary now in an ordinary five-room apartment. He said that it costs more yearly to take care of the flat silver we use on our tables than our grandmothers had for

their use in furnishing the house. Many people mortgage their homes for an automobile, use the equity for gasoline, and spend more on it than their fathers spent for groceries.

Following the address a reception was held. Beautiful music and refreshments added enjoyment to the occasion.

On Thursday morning, the report of the Committee on salaries, vacations and hours was presented by Mr Sanborn. This was the most striking presentation of the entire conference, showing from several angles the development of library work in Indiana. Mr Sanborn has been asked to prepare a condensed presentation of this for publication.

Mr Bailey, of Gary, chairman of the Committee on library legislation, reported on a tentative outline of the librarian's licensing bill. The bill should be applicable only to cities of a valuation of \$1,000,000 or more, and to librarians appointed on or after August 1, 1915. It provides for a board of examiners appointed by the Library commission, of which the secretary of the commission shall be a member and act as secretary. It provides that the Public library commission shall establish and maintain such classes for instruction in library science as shall be deemed necessary, and for which funds permit.

The association voted approval of the spirit of the proposed library bill as presented by the committee, and pledged the coöperation of everyone in the state in its furtherance.

The program of the morning included a symposium on "Focusing the community's interest on the library," led by Miss McCollough. "The tonic of dull business and what to do when circulation runs low" was discussed by Miss Flexner of the Louisville public library, Miss Jones of the Indianapolis public library, Miss Luttrell of the North Manchester public library, and Miss Randall of the Whiting public library.

Mr Hepburn, of Purdue university, talked on "How and why to make a library survey." The library should know all the interests of the community, in order to conserve them properly. In

informing itself of the interests of the people, it informs the people of the readiness of the library to meet their desires, and adds to the value of the library.

"Methods of extending the library to districts and classes not using it," was discussed by Miss Jayne of Bluffton, Miss McCormick of Ft Wayne and Mrs Hughes of Terre Haute.

Miss Tandy, of Kendallville, spoke of the constructive work of the library.

Secretary Sanborn, of the Public library commission, spoke of the essentials of a good library building, emphasizing the fact that the librarian should have much to say about the planning of the interior, for the same reason that a housekeeper plans the house which is to be the home.

"The trustees' part in extending the use of the library" was most admirably presented by Mr Elba Branigan of Franklin, Mr Orville C. Pratt of Wabash, Mr C. A. Reeve and Mrs D. C. Hershey.

The contribution of the trustees was so sound library doctrine that it was easy for an outsider to understand the reason for the solid fibre of the library work in Indiana.

Mrs E. C. Earl of Connersville was elected president of the Trustees' association and Orville C. Pratt of Wabash, secretary.

The afternoon session was a very animated and earnest discussion of the proposed library legislation for the coming winter. This was followed by a book symposium covering the best books of 1913-14 for library purposes.

Mr Hepburn gave a review of the books on agriculture; Miss Keating of the books on vocational training; Miss McCormick of books for business men. State-librarian Brown named 10 books of poetry for first purchase. E. C. Lucas gave a list of books on new theology, and the 1913-14 juveniles were discussed in a very illuminating way by Miss Sara Sheerin of Indianapolis.

Miss Scott, in the report of state progress, said that the progress in library work could be best judged by the increased attendance at the meeting, and

as the slogan for the year had been, "Raising the standards," she thought the results as shown justified the belief in substantial progress.

Mr Harlow Lindley discussed the plans for the Indiana centennial. He spoke of the opportunity it gave for the development of historical pageantry. It would be possible for every community in the state to engage in it, as he thought the educational value to those concerned who really live the events portrayed, would be beyond measure. The year ought to be featured by preparation of a complete bibliography on Indiana history, the teaching of state and local history in the public schools, and the collection and preservation of all kinds of historical material concerning Indiana. The present is the psychological moment to act, as another opportunity like it will not come for another hundred years.

D. C. Brown urged the librarians to take an interest in the plans for securing a new educational building for the state.

The association received an invitation to hold its next annual meeting at Gary.

The following officers were elected: president, Miss Nannie Jayne, Bluffton; vice-president, Mr Harlow Lindley; secretary, Miss Anne C. Keating; treasurer, Miss Mary H. Roberts; alternate delegate to A. L. A. convention, Mr Henry N. Sanborn.

Iowa—The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Iowa library association was held in Marshalltown, October 20-22, 1914. The business meetings were held in the auditorium of the Public library. The registered attendance of trustees was the largest in the history of the association, 32 being present, while 97 librarians and 14 visitors made a total of 143.

Addresses of welcome from the mayor and the Library board opened the first meeting. Miss Lillian Arnold, in the annual address of the president, spoke of the growth of library work during the past 25 years and emphasized the dominant idea of librarians—that of extension.

"The widening field and the open book" was the subject of the principal address of the afternoon by Miss Alice Tyler, of Western Reserve university. Miss Tyler calls the library the great opportunity of today, and spoke of its share in forming the ideal men and women of the future. Libraries should be social centers of communities and at the front of every movement for civil and social improvement.

Mrs A. J. Barclay reported for the Legislative committee at the Wednesday morning session. She gave a resumé of the laws which had been made or amended to affect libraries during the year. Among them, an amendment providing for extension work by the Library commission; an amendment raising the limit of taxes to be levied; a section stating that the number of trustees of a commission governed city shall be five; and an act permitting school corporations the power to contract with library boards for library privileges.

Round-tables for children's librarians, assistants, and trustees at which many pertinent ideas were introduced and discussed filled the rest of the morning session and part of the afternoon. Miss Julia A. Robinson, secretary of the Iowa library commission, gave the report of the commission for the year. Only seven towns in the state with a population of 2,000 or more do not have free public libraries. There are now 115 free libraries and 60 association and subscription libraries. Two new libraries were dedicated during the year. Miss Robinson summarized library extension problems to be of two kinds,—the establishment of new libraries, and the intensive extension through the widening of privileges from local centers.

"Industrial education and what the library can do to help" was the subject of a stimulating and inspiring talk by Prof C. K. Smith, head of the Extension department of the School of engineering, Iowa state college. He believes that a separate room should be set aside in a library for the use of tradesmen, and that more technical books should be purchased. He urged a closer acquaintance

between librarians and tradesmen, suggested picture exhibitions of mechanical inventions as an inducement to the men who do not use the library; spoke of the rapidly developing ideas on vocational education, and gave many practical and helpful suggestions for assisting students as well as tradesmen.

Dr Clarke of Waterloo spoke strongly of the influence of the library on the peace movement, urging that librarians assist in giving peace programs, aid in eliminating the making of military toys, and banish the war stories from the shelves.

A symposium on rural extension closed the program for the afternoon. Under this, extension through school corporations, at school stations and by direct loan, were explained by librarians who had tried these methods. That the subject of extension is a predominant one was apparent by the continual references made in the various papers and talks.

Thursday morning, Mrs Horace Towner gave a pithy talk on "Study club outlines," urging a systematic and organized system in the courses of study planned, rather than the hit and miss method used by most clubs. Miss May Massee followed with a spirited description of the work and ambition of the A. L. A. *Booklist*, saying that the desire of the A. L. A. *Booklist* was to spread a library spirit over the country, insisted that it had a personality, but warned librarians that it was to be used judiciously and with a thorough knowledge of the needs of one's own community. She gave an interesting account of the work of the staff of four in the office, and the 400 scattered over the U. S., and suggested methods of utilizing the notes outside of the librarian's office. A splendid paper on "Modern poetry" by Miss Ione Armstrong and a short talk on "Historical collections in small libraries" by Curator E. R. Harlan of the State historical society, closed the sessions.

The resolutions committee expressed its approval of the effort to make possible the free carriage of books on rural routes as embodied in the bill before Congress, and presented by Congressman

Green of Iowa, and indorsed all efforts of the Executive board for world peace.

Tuesday evening the association members were the guests of the Twentieth Century club at a reception and dramatic reading. Miss Cora Mel Patton of Chicago read Galsworthy's "Pigeon." Tuesday evening, the Marshalltown Commercial club entertained at its opening lecture, with Alton Packard, cartoonist, as the attraction. Thursday afternoon, an automobile ride about the city, a courtesy of the Commercial club, was followed by a tea in the library given by the Library board of Marshalltown.

The following officers were chosen for the coming year: President, L. L. Dickerson, librarian Grinnell College library; first vice-president, Mrs J. W. Corey, trustee, Spencer; second vice-president, Miss Charlotte Goetzman, State organizer; secretary, Miss Anna Maude Kimberly, librarian, Marshalltown; treasurer, Miss Mary Brainard, assistant, Waterloo library; registrar, Miss Anna Tarr, librarian, Clinton.

Kentucky—The eighth annual meeting of the Kentucky library association was held at Lexington, October 29-30.

The meeting opened in the Lexington public library, with an address of welcome by Mayor J. E. Cassidy.

Miss Corwin, librarian of Berea college, pointed out the duty of "The public library as a conservator of local history."

Jennie M. Flexner, superintendent of circulation in the Louisville public library, gave a most interesting paper on "The library's place in community life." She used the very excellent work carried on by the Louisville public library to illustrate her theme.

Mary Davis, of Owensboro, gave a list of the best reference books for a small library, telling why these books were chosen out of the many that might be taken.

Mrs T. H. Clay gave some of the principles of book selection.

The discussion of the papers was held over until all had been read. Miss Corwin's paper brought out considerable feeling. The statement was made that

many valuable documents, both public and from private collections, had been taken away from Kentucky and were now in another state. The consensus of opinion was that the proper place for these was in Kentucky.

Mr Kavanaugh, State-librarian, offered the following resolution:

Whereas it has been reported to the Kentucky library association that certain historical and county records of this Commonwealth were removed by Dr Lyman Draper from the state of Kentucky to Madison, Wisconsin, and

Whereas, it is improper that a public record should be removed from this state, and whereas it is also reported that certain private records and historical matter have been taken in the same way to other places, that we as members of the Kentucky library association, request the Attorney-general of Kentucky to investigate this matter, and if the investigation be justified by the facts, that he take such legal steps as are necessary to restore these records to the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and to the proper officers and parties.

The resolution as offered was carried unanimously.

A committee consisting of Messrs. Settle, Kavanaugh, and Beckner was appointed to give publicity to the matter, and to encourage people to bring complaints for the restoration of historical material, to the attention of the Attorney-general.

A reception with a very entertaining and interesting program was given on Thursday evening.

At the session on Friday morning, Miss Rawson presented an argument in favor of the proposition, "Should Kentucky libraries be county libraries?"

A book symposium led by Miss Pratt, of Louisville, was both helpful and interesting.

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs Anne M. Spears, Covington; vice-president, F. K. Kavanaugh, Lexington; secretary, Mary L. Goodman; treasurer, May Wood Wigginton; member-at-large, Mrs L. E. Downes.

Massachusetts—At the October meeting of several of the library organizations of Massachusetts at Stockbridge, there were 150 present and the occasion was unanimously enjoyable as well as profitable.

R. R. Bowker, editor of *Library Journal*, whose summer home is at Stockbridge, welcomed the visitors and in a way was the host of the occasion.

Rev George N. Holcomb gave an address upon "Rural literature." The speaker limited the title to writings which are artistic in form and expression, which make their appeal primarily not to the intellect but to the emotions and the will, and which aim to interpret nature or to idealize country life or rural vocations.

Mr Lane of the Harvard College library called the attention of the club to the union list of periodicals of Boston and vicinity being edited by Mr Homer. He expressed the hope that many libraries would further the work by subscriptions.

The "Catalog of architectural literature," published by the Boston public library, contains many new topics—city planning, village improvement, restoration of buildings, expositions—which make it a valuable bibliographical tool for libraries, both large and small.

Printing today

Henry L. Johnson, editor of *The Graphic Arts*, read the first paper, "American printing of today: its achievements and its faults." He divided the subject into two parts—book and commercial printing. He brought before the club some of the general features of the printing industry of today. 1—The dominant note of beauty and comfort prevailing in the buildings of modern printing and publishing houses. 2—The great improvement in illustrations and commercial printing constantly taking place, due to rotary photogravure, for example, and the off-set process. 3—The status of book printing. In the thirty thousand printing and publishing offices of the United States there are hardly a score pre-eminent for the high standard of their book-making. This is due partly to the fact that comparatively few employees in such shops are by training and interest qualified for book-making, and partly to the indifference to craftsmanship on the part of the publisher. "It is a matter of much pride that the best

made books both in the field of general literature and in school books are produced in New England," Mr Johnson remarked. 4—The enormous development of commercial printing, beginning with the day of the handbill and the market report and coming down to our own period of the mail order catalog, which sells literally millions of dollars worth of goods a year. 5—The need for thorough training in historic ornament and classic lettering to be applied to industrial design. The requirement is not for a greater originality and versatility on the part of the designer, but a personal expression resulting from instruction as laid down above. The best letterers we have today such as Goudy, Hapgood, Wiggins, Cleland and Edwards, are students of historical design and of classic lettering. 6—The educational steps which have been taken in printing. Since the apprenticeship system has lapsed there has been nothing to take its place until recently, when printing classes have been started in grammar and high schools, which contribute somewhat to advancement in the craft. In Boston, New York, Chicago and Pittsburgh courses in printing and an apprenticeship system have been successfully combined. In the same cities a zest for better printing is shown by the organization of craftsman's clubs. Since the men composing these associations naturally will turn to libraries for books on their subject, the best must be gathered here for them. Mr Johnson recommended the following books on lettering and printing, designating Mr Brown's book on "Letters and lettering" as the best single volume.

Practice of typography. By Theodore L. DeVinne. 4v. Century Co. \$2.00 each.

Alphabets, old and new. By Lewis F. Day. Scribner. \$1.25.

Principles of design. By G. W. Rhead. Scribner. \$2.25.

Letters and lettering. By F. C. Brown. Bates & Guild. \$2.00.

Writing and illuminating and lettering. By Edward Johnston. Macmillan. \$2.00.

Book of alphabets for use in schools. By H. W. Shaylor. Ginn. 10c.

Proof reading and punctuation. By A. M. Smith, Philadelphia. Pub. by author. \$1.10.

Of the decorative illustration of books old and new. By Walter Crane. \$2.00.

Lettering in ornament. By Lewis F. Day. Scribner. \$2.00n.

Handbook of style, in use at the Riverside Press, Cambridge, Mass., Pub. by Houghton, Mifflin. 50c.

Principles of advertising arrangement. By F. A. Parsons. Prang Co. \$2.00.

The second part of Mr Johnson's talk consisted of running comments on his exhibit of commercial printing and the best in American book-making. He showed books by Mr Updyke, who has set the standard for the most decorative type of book design and typography for fiction and general literature. He showed, also, examples of old style antique, Montaigne type by Bruce Rogers, and Roman type most legible and clear, embodied in a little book on American literature, by W. J. Long, published by Ginn. As a specimen of the best in advertising literature Mr Johnson drew attention to a beautifully illustrated book put out by a construction company. The illustrations did not show cuts of machinery as might have been expected, but symbolized the aims and ideals of the company's work.

The "Quest of the type ideal," by William Dana Orcutt of the *Plimpton Press*, was closely allied to the foregoing paper. He took the subject back to the beginnings of printing. Printing from the stamp was known to the Greeks and to the Romans, individual type was known to the Chinese who taught its use to the Saracens, the Koreans had movable types 600 years before Gutenberg, but it remained for the latter to put them together and to appreciate their wonderful power as the material expression of the thought of man.

Mr Orcutt explained the evolution of type designing from the earliest times to the present, showing with the aid of the stereopticon examples of the famous type faces of Schoeffer, Jensen, Aldus, Etienne, Plantin, Elzevir, Baskerville, Didot, Bodoni, William Morris, Emery Walker, and of his own "humanistic type," and showing the rise and fall in the degree of excellence as indications of the culture of the period. A pleasing

feature of Mr Orcutt's talk was a recital of his personal experiences at the Laurentian library in Florence in designing his "humanistic" type. "It seemed strange," Mr Orcutt said, "that no one had ever used the hand lettering of the original manuscripts as the basis of a type, being content to base new faces on old types, themselves based upon hand lettering of lesser excellence." Mr Orcutt himself has gone back to the original and produced the "humanistic type," as exemplified in "The triumphs of Francesco Petrarca," published by Little-Brown. Characteristic examples of the work of the printers referred to were exhibited.

In the afternoon the meeting was held at the log cabin of Mr R. R. Bowker where the program was carried out in connection with the reception and tea. As the day was warm the meeting was held out doors in the pine woods.

Library work with children

Mrs Mary E. Root, children's librarian of the Providence public library spoke on "The negative and the positive side of the library work with children; or, Is there a backbone in library work with children"—the latter half of the title being added as a concession to the critics of children's work. While the latter have ceased to call it sentimental, there is still a question as to whether it is over developed. A recreation survey conducted in Providence in 1912 showed 25,000 children patronizing the moving pictures, 10,000 the pool rooms, and 8,000 the dance halls in one week. A questionnaire conducted by the schools brought to light who is supplying the reading besides the library and what is its character. Probably Alger's books sell better than those of any other one juvenile author. He has seven publishers and his books can be bought for from 10 cents to \$1 a copy. The need is for more good books in cheaper editions. The Boy Scout library is a fine beginning but good books for less than 50 cents should be found on the market. When "Heidi," "Captains Courageous" and

"Treasure Island" are to be bought at 10 cents a copy, the vote for the "favorite" author will be changed. A library in buying books should duplicate worth while titles rather than buy a large number of different ones. To lead children to read bigger and finer books was the keynote of Mrs Root's talk. There are many ways of doing this, coöperating with the schools, keeping in touch with the mother's clubs, but the finest way is in conducting a "story hour"—not a story hour as generally understood where a desultory course is pursued, but reading aloud to a group of children a book, chapter by chapter, from week to week. Mrs Root has had remarkable success with this method. To make 100 boys understand one fine book is better than charging 1000 books simply to run up the circulation.

Mr Lewis continued the subject of work with children, explaining an outline prepared by the Western Massachusetts library club. "Outlines for an hour's exercise on how to use the library" is divided into four headings: *The library*, what is it? *The arrangement of books*, how many of you ever noticed whether the books are in any special order? *The catalog*; explain the necessity of having a key to the contents to the library, how many of you are in the habit of using the catalog? What kinds of questions would you expect the catalog to answer? How are the cards in the catalog arranged? What are reference cards? *Reference books*. What are reference books? How many can name a reference book? What do you use the dictionary for? How is it arranged? How does the encyclopedia differ from the dictionary? How is it arranged, and how do you use it? Suggestions, explanations and hints for practical exercises are also contained in the leaflet, and at the bottom is appended the pertinent remark, "when in doubt consult the librarian."

A general discussion followed the presentation of this subject. Miss Jordan, of Boston, suggested that the

value of the outline would depend upon the coöperation of the teachers. She also thought it advisable to include in the hour's work some explanation of the use of indexes and tables of contents in an ordinary book. Cambridge has 600 High school freshmen. In different divisions they come to the library for two periods five days in the week for a fortnight. At Springfield they cover fewer subjects and more simply. The children learn to use the catalog and answer five questions from books found in their room.

At the evening meeting there were two sections. At one, Mr Walter R. Briggs, librarian of Trinity college, Hartford, Conn., spoke on the "Use and care of maps" and Mr Archibald Cary Coolidge, director of the Harvard University library, spoke on "Some problems of a university library." At the other, the local secretaries related the experiences they had had in their work. Miss Louisa M. Hooper being unable to preside, Mr Fison conducted this meeting.

Use and care of maps

Mr Briggs thinks so much has been done in the way of general indexes such as Poole's that it would be both possible and desirable to compile a fully annotated list of atlases and maps in print, together with an index to the best maps in recent books and periodicals and to keep up a yearly supplement of the same. But, even if this is not done, he says "We have not extracted from the books upon the shelves of our libraries all the 'by-products,' which they are capable of furnishing and for which there is popular and genuine demand" and we can go a long way toward solving the problem by adding to the catalogs under the subject of maps many more cards than is now the practice, by adopting some uniform method of more fully describing the maps, and by exhibiting them on a revolving map rack.

Teachers of history and geography are making far more use of good maps than formerly. The New England teachers' association has collected and de-

posited in the Boston museum of fine arts the nucleus of a collection of maps, charts, books, casts, models and wall pictures which will gradually be enlarged to meet the demands of all history teachers. These are accessible to librarians.

While such a collection may not be of practical value nor available to everybody, even the smaller libraries, with the necessary trouble can extract a good deal of material from encyclopedias, atlases, guide books, directories and books of travel.

Mr J. R. Coolidge added that libraries ought to acquire old county maps which are invaluable for future as well as present use.

Some problems of a university library

The first of these is the financial one. "It is not a question of making ends meet but of making so many ends meet," Mr A. C. Coolidge says. Then comes the question of providing duplicate copies. Undergraduates buy fewer books than they did a generation ago because the text book has been largely superseded by the laboratory method and students must refer to many different treatises on the same subject. Shall the college have an excellent reference librarian? If so, the student is apt to think he has found the royal road to learning. Then again the faculty expects the library to keep abreast of the times, which means the purchase of current as well as more recondite books on every imaginable subject and even when special funds are available, the books you want most to buy and the books you have the money for, are not necessarily the same. How thoroughly should the books in foreign languages be cataloged? The subject catalog is generally helpful and useful to undergraduate students, but not to a specialist—he cares only that books be classified as closely as possible and be carefully arranged on the shelves, to which he must have access. Last but not least of the problems of a university library is the one of lending books. It is flattering to be asked for rare books, but often they are gone when they are most needed on the shelves of the home library—and sometimes it is

hard to feel that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

The reports of the various local secretaries appointed by the Free public library commission revealed a number of novel methods of dealing with the question involved, which is to bring the librarians of smaller libraries together in groups where they may talk freely without feeling the constraint imposed by large numbers of people and without being obliged to go far and be at great expense. In some instances the largest library of the group made a sort of social affair of a meeting, serving tea and other refreshments, discussing the problems of the smaller libraries at the same time. Some had meetings to which outside speakers were bidden. Others showed their own resources, discussed new books, saved up typical questions to be answered. Again other secretaries have simply made neighborly calls. Inter-library loans have been established as the result of meetings. Such gatherings will doubtless serve as a clearing house for ideas, and an incentive to enthusiastic work upon the part of all concerned.

Saturday morning's session, the Free public library commission conference on "How some interesting problems have been practically solved," was presided over by O. C. Davis of Waltham. Miss Abby L. Sargent, of Medford, said her aim this year had been to draw children from the cheap picture shows. Accordingly the library bought a radiopticon and screen for approximately \$30 and began work last December with a presentation of "The Birds' Christmas Carol." From that time on, stories in series were conducted. Travel talk afternoons were followed up with the circulation of books on the subject. Industries of Medford, logging and shipbuilding, care of and kindness to animals, were other afternoons' entertainments. This year Miss Sargent expects to try one long story continued from week to week, since desultory work merely produces "mental indigestion." Mr Evans, of Woburn, thinks the services of many people who cannot afford to contribute money to the library can be had for the asking in a

small community. He made most practical and economical suggestions for covering circulating magazines, for keeping newspapers when a library had no newspaper room, and disposing of other vexing matters of a like nature. His knowledge of materials, prices, and where to buy was at the disposal of the audience. Miss Thurston, of Leicester, told how she can make over what is now a museum for a lecture room. Miss Sornborger, of Hopedale, told of the Victrola concerts given at her library Sunday afternoons. People are invited to bring their own records and one-twentieth of the population have so far cordially responded.

The latter part of Saturday morning Miss Tillinghast gave her book-mending demonstration.

EUGENIA N. HENRY,
Recorder.

Minnesota—The annual meeting of the Twin City library club was held in St. Paul, October 22.

Over 60 members attended to hear Jesse B. Davis, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who had come to St. Paul to speak before the M. E. A. He gave a short address on "Vocational training," and spoke very appreciatively of the way in which librarians had helped him in this work in Grand Rapids.

James T. Gerould, of the State University library, described at some length his experiences on a book-buying trip in England and France last summer. He gave a good idea of the bookshops and book-buying conditions there, and explained the methods he had used in selecting books on a large scale to stock a new university library in the Canadian Northwest.

At a brief business meeting the following officers were elected: Dr W. Dawson Johnston, of the St. Paul public library, president; Helen J. Stearns, of the Minnesota public library commission, vice-president; Raymond L. Walkley, of the Minneapolis public library, secretary; Winifred Gregory, of the University of Minnesota, treasurer.

R. L. WALKLEY,
Secretary.

Missouri—The Missouri library association held its fifteenth annual meeting in Sedalia, November 18-20, 1914. On account of the illness of Miss Florence Whittier, president, Mrs Harriet P. Sawyer, first vice-president, presided. The themes were "Extension work and publicity."

The sessions opened on Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 4 p. m. Hon Charles E. Yeater, a member of the Library board and the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri, welcomed the visiting librarians to Sedalia. The response to this hospitable welcome was made by Jesse Cunningham, librarian of the State school of mines.

The chief address of the opening session was delivered by Dr Arthur E. Bostwick on the subject, "Three kinds of librarians." Among the points touched on by Dr Bostwick were the personal element in present day economics, the necessity of training for librarianship and of being acquainted with librarian's tools and conditions in the community. "The librarian of yesterday led an easy life. It was a passive willingness to serve those who came to the library but no effort to get them to come."

"The librarian of today is not passive. He walks through his library. He walks through his town. He knows the books in one, and the dwellers in the other and he knows both in their relationship to one other, actual and possible."

The evening was most appropriately given over to a literary and musical program confined to Kipling and his India and conducted by Mrs W. D. Steele and I. N. Farris of Sedalia. The evening closed with a reception by the Public library.

Thursday morning, Nov. 19, was taken up by the regular business session, papers and discussion.

The suggestion to hold district meetings made by Mr Rush at the 1913 meeting resulted in one meeting being held at St. Joseph. Twenty librarians from Northwest Missouri were in attendance and discussed actual prob-

lems before the librarians of the district. Following the suggestion that district meetings be encouraged, a committee composed of Miss Wales, Miss McLachlan and Miss Reichert was appointed to look after such meetings.

Miss Jessie Blair of Sedalia read a paper, "The library and the club" and Mrs W. D. Steele opened and enlivened the discussion of the subject. The book symposium completed the morning's program. Miss McLachlan discussed books for the house-keeper; C. E. Rush, books for the wage earner; Purd B. Wright, books for business men and Paul Blackwelder, books on the war.

At the afternoon session Dr Bostwick gave one of his characteristically interesting papers on "The art of re-reading." State superintendent of schools W. P. Evans spoke on "The library and the school." Mr Evans gave a review of the growth of school libraries in Missouri and advocated state aid for libraries. Miss Margaret Curran gave a most suggestive paper on "What shall I read next." The discussion was led by Miss Lillian Sutherland of Kansas City.

Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, Prof F. M. Tisdell of the University of Missouri entertained the association and guests with an illustrated address, "Literary associations of the English lakes." Prof Tisdell brought vividly before his audience the England of Coleridge, Keats and Southey with particular mention of the life and surroundings of Wordsworth.

The final business session was held on Friday morning. The incoming executive board was directed to investigate ways and means for the publication of a new edition of the handbook. A motion was carried to have a committee appointed to frame and urge the passage of a bill in the next legislature, requiring the state printer to turn over to the Missouri library commission, 50 copies of such documents as are intended for distribution by the state, the same to be distributed

by the commission to the various libraries of the state.

The resolutions committee reported suitable resolutions.

A message of regret and flowers were sent to Miss Florence Whittier, president of the association, now ill in a sanitarium at Pasadena, California.

The business session gave way to the round-table on Extension work and publicity led by Miss Wales. The discussion was very helpful.

The following officers were elected: President, Jesse Cunningham; vice-president, Frances Fordice; second vice-president, N. C. McLachlan; secretary, Mary E. Baker; treasurer, Alice Gladden.

J. CUNNINGHAM,
Secretary.

Montana—The eighth annual meeting of the Montana library association was held in Butte, November 23-25, with an attendance of 22 members. Monday afternoon, the librarians were received at the Butte public library.

Mr Roberts, president of the Board, welcomed the association to Butte and to the library; Mrs Homan of Havre, responded in behalf of the visiting librarians after which the president, Miss Buckhous of the University of Montana library, spoke of the association, its aim and what it could do to further the progress of library work throughout the state, dwelling especially on the aid which the library should give to all classes, on the social questions of the day.

Mr Davies, librarian of the Butte public library, who for years has studied the subject of Montana literature, gave a very able paper on that subject, with the idea of inspiring more effort along the line of local history.

At four o'clock, the meeting adjourned to the Children's department where an informal reception was held by the members of the staff of the Butte public library. In the evening, a joint session was held with the Montana Teachers' association after which the Parents-Teachers association tended a reception to members of both associations.

The session on Tuesday morning was entirely given over to the discussion of the ways in which the public library may help the teacher. Miss Binzel of the Missoula public schools gave a very inspiring talk showing what had been done in Missoula along that line, the whole discussion bringing out the fact that it is the coöperation between the librarian and the teachers which makes for successful work.

Miss Stoddard, librarian of the Missoula public library presided over the afternoon meeting. The observance of the minor holidays and the advisability of the library being closed was presented by Miss Thompson of Anaconda.

In the absence of Miss Richie of Kalispell her paper on Library publicity was read by Miss McCord of Bozeman, the discussion centering around the two questions "The bulletin for special days; does it pay," and the subject of exhibits as the Christmas exhibit, which is of interest to libraries large and small. Both do much to bring libraries into closer touch with our local book dealer.

Miss Fernald of Great Falls, opened the discussion on Library bookbinding, advocating binding for even the smallest libraries and giving her satisfactory experience with books bound from the sheets as done by several of the Eastern binders.

Miss Collins of Billings, spoke of recent books for children classifying them into various groups and stating that the problem which most demanded the attention of those concerned with the children's reading is the mediocre book, its enormous and ever increasing volume.

The annual banquet was held Tuesday evening, the Mayor of the city and the members of the Butte library board and their wives being present to greet the librarians.

At the last session, Prof Coffman of the University gave a very sympathetic rendition of Tagore's "Postoffice," prefacing his reading with an account of Tagore's life, and speaking of him as the "interpreter of the East to the

Western world and of the West to the Eastern world."

Miss Fernald of the Great Falls library spoke of the work which the Great Falls library was doing to reinforce the public schools, dwelling upon the branch libraries placed in each of the schools in the outlying districts and administered through the library and the short course in the use of the library which is given to the incoming Freshman class each Fall.

The subject of Extension work and the assistance of persons living in the country was next discussed. Miss Gertrude Buckhous of the University reported many calls and the sending of package libraries and all material which could be spared. Miss Dickerson told of the calls upon the State historical society and their inability to cope with the situation, having few books which are suitable to loan. Miss Haley of Helena spoke of what Helena is trying to do in helping to supply small libraries and in giving information to those who wish to start a library, all of which lead to the realization of the great need of a state commission and a regular secretary for such work.

Miss Buckhous, chairman of the legislative committee, gave an outline of the proposed bill for County libraries and for a commission. Each librarian was urged to do all in her power to put it before the legislators and make her community see the necessity of such a law.

The following officers were elected: President, Louise M. Fernald of Great Falls; vice-president, Elizabeth McCord of Bozeman; secretary, Miss Agnes Dickerson of Helena; treasurer, Miss Clara Maine of Lewistown.

LOUISE M. FERNALD,
Secretary.

New Mexico—The second annual meeting of the Librarian's section of the New Mexico state teacher's association was held at Albuquerque, N. M., Wednesday, Nov. 25. Miss Della Sisler, librarian of the University of New Mexico, presided.

An effort had been made to secure a large attendance of teachers at this meet-

ing for the section had announced a program of interest to all with Miss Lutie E. Stearns, of Milwaukee, as chief speaker.

The following program was rendered: "School libraries in Spanish-American communities," Pres O. C. Zingg, El Rito.

Mr Zingg showed the necessity of having books on Spanish folk lore and easy Spanish literature in the schools of those districts.

"Plans for establishing libraries in public schools," Pres L. C. Mersfelder, Clovis.

The speaker advocated the arousing of a feeling of personal ownership in the children.

Brief discussion by Miss Stearns who suggested that New Mexico follow the example of Wisconsin in providing the mandatory law—appropriating at least ten cents for every child of school age—money to be used for school libraries.

"How the public library may coöperate with the schools," Myrtle M. Cole, Raton.

Miss Cole spoke from the viewpoint of the librarian who secured definite results from giving talks in the schools and furnishing graded lists to the teachers.

The subject of needed legislation for library extension was brought up by State superintendent Alvan White, who asked for a discussion of the question of books as germ carriers.

Miss Stearns answered that a record of the Wisconsin traveling libraries shows that in 18 years not one assistant has had a contagious disease, not even a skin infection, although the books are handled, cleaned and gone over page by page by these assistants each time a box is returned and before it is sent to another community.

"Legislation for library extension in New Mexico," Mrs R. F. Asplund, Santa Fe.

The speaker gave a brief history of the attempts that have thus far been made to secure library extension and plans for future work along this line.

"The modern library movement," Lutie E. Stearns, Milwaukee.

Miss Stearns dwelt on a plan of mandatory laws for each community to provide school libraries, such books as were purchased to be selected from lists furnished by the office of State superintendent of public instruction. She advised each community to run a "movie" of its own for educational purposes. Finally gave two slogans for the new library movement.

"The right book to the right person at the right time."

"The value of a book is in its use."

Officers elected for 1915:

Myrtle M. Cole, librarian, Raton, President.

Pauline Madden, librarian, Albuquerque, secretary.

Mrs J. S. Hofer, Tumcumcari, Mrs C. A. Redic, Cloudcroft, Miss Della Sisler, Albuquerque, members of the Educational council.

A motion was carried to the effect that a committee of three, herself to act as ex-officio member, be appointed by the chairman for the purpose of working with the committee from the Woman's Club, in the attempt to obtain library legislation.

PAULINE MADDEN,
Secretary.

New York—The November meeting of the Rochester District library club was held on Friday, November 20. At the close of the business meeting, the following officers were elected for the year:

President, W. F. Yust; vice-president, Mr Ewell; secretary-treasurer, Miss Marquand.

Following the business session, Thomas J. Saunders gave an interesting talk on the making of a book, from writing to binding.

ETHEL F. SAYRES,
Secretary.

North Dakota—The ninth annual meeting of the North Dakota library association was held in Wahpeton, N. D., November 6-7 and was generally conceded to be one of the most interesting and profitable of the association's meetings. Librarians came from all parts of the state and a number from Minnesota were

also present, which made it seem almost like a joint Minnesota-North Dakota meeting.

At the opening session considerable time was devoted to the discussion of books on agriculture and there was read an able paper on the subject, prepared by Prof J. H. Shepperd of the Agricultural college. The following nine books were recommended by Prof Shepperd, as covering the agricultural field in fairly complete form:

How to choose a farm—Hunt.
Soil fertility and permanent agriculture—Hopkins.
Farm structures—Eklaw.
Concrete farm building—Universal Portland Cement Co.
Alfalfa farming in America—Wing.
Judging live stock—Craig.
Feeds and feeding.
Law for the American farmer—Greene.
Farmers of forty centuries—King.

There were also papers and discussions on "Modern poetry for the library," "The county library," "Moving pictures in library work," and the "Psychology of popular audiences."

Mrs A. G. Arnold of Fargo gave a most interesting and inspiring paper on "Story hours for little ones." Mrs Arnold is the story teller of the Fargo public library, and from the sample which the association was fortunate to hear, she must delight her audiences very much. Mrs Arnold discussed the subject along the following three different phases: 1) The disposal of the children during the story hour or the necessity of having a place where the story teller and the children can be all to themselves. 2) The kind of stories to tell or the importance of telling stories with little ideals and lessons in them. 3) How to tell a story, the most essential point of which is to know it not only in your mind but in your heart. One of the interesting features of the meeting was a symposium "The library world." "News from Massachusetts" was given by Miss Helen Carleton of Dickinson, "A year at Pratt by Miss Nellie Olson of Mayville, "The A. L. A. 1914" by Miss Margaret Greene of Minot and "General library development" by Miss Clara F. Baldwin, St. Paul.

Friday evening Prof A. E. Minard of Fargo entertained the association in an address on Life and customs at Oxford, which he called the oldest of the English universities and the youngest of the American.

The social features added much to the pleasure of the meeting, for Wahpeton proved to be a very efficient hostess.

There were also some pleasant reunions, one of them, an Illinois breakfast, participated in by six librarians, who had either attended the Illinois library school or been on the library staff.

There are few library meetings where one or more Illinois librarians are not found, particularly in the Northwest.

Resolutions were adopted by the convention endorsing the movement to create county libraries and recommending the necessary legislation to permit counties to found such libraries and also recommending the removal of the tariff duties from books on account of its being an impediment to the spread of education and culture.

The next meeting of the association will be held in Grand Forks and the officers elected for the ensuing year are: President, Alfred Steel, Jamestown; vice-president, Miss Lilian Mirick, Wahpeton; secretary-treasurer, Miss Lillian Cook, Valley City. Executive committee, Dr Max Batt, Fargo, Miss S. Blanche Hedrick, University, and the officers.

ALICE M. PADDOCK,
Secy. pro tem.

Alabama Library Meeting

A meeting of the Alabama library association will be held in Montgomery, March 24-26, 1915. The principal address will be delivered by Henry E. Legler, of the Chicago public library. The sessions will be devoted largely to librarians' problems.

Free Distribution

The trustees of the Mary L. Eddy estate offer a set of the writings of the late Mrs Eddy to any public library that cares for them. Requests may be sent to the office in Boston.

Interesting Things in Print

"List of books on electricity in the Deborah Cook Sayles public library," is the title of a 26 p. list and index, issued by that library at Pawtucket, R. I.

A reprint of an article on "The water-power problems in the United States," by Rome G. Brown, has been made from the *Yale Law Journal* November, 1914.

"A selection of the technical books of 1913" has been listed and published by the Pratt Institute free library. The list was prepared by Donald Hendry, reference librarian of applied science.

The Department of engineering of the Iowa State college, Ames, Ia., has issued a very desirable list of books for practical men, selected for the mechanic rather than for the engineer or designer. The list is recommended by the Department of engineering extension of the College, and circulars are available for distribution to those who want them.

A new edition of "The useful arts catalog," of Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, covering the accessions of the years 1903-1914, and bringing the original catalog, issued 11 years ago, up-to-date, is at hand.

Many of the books in the original list have been discarded, particularly where new editions of the more important works have been acquired. The catalog has the scheme of classification in front, followed by an author list, subject list and index, making a volume of over 200 p.

The Public library of South Bend, Ind., is making a special effort along publicity lines, and to this end has issued lists of books on a variety of subjects. Some of these lists are "Artistic crafts and architecture," "Building," "The opera, its composers, singers and stories," "Some books for the business man," "Banking, commerce, exchange," "Labor and laboring classes," "Vocations," "Philosophy," "Schools and teaching," "Child problems," "Essays," "Municipal problems," "Travels at home," "Stereo-

graphic travel tours," "Agriculture and country life."

An article by Robert Haven Schauffler, one of the most popular modern writers, in defense of the versatility of the late Dr S. Weir Mitchell, appeared in the *Century* a few days before Dr Mitchell's death. This article might have served as a characterization of Mr Schauffler himself. Mr Schauffler is a poet, travel writer, novelist, short story writer and essayist. He exhibited bronzes at the exhibition of the National sculpture society, has composed music, and is well known as a cellist. He is an expert woodsman, canoeist and tennis player. He won the Italian tennis championship (doubles), and played in the Olympian games. According to Stevenson, such a wide experience ought to be an invaluable asset for the literary worker, and this is borne out by the fact that Mr Schauffler is one of the most successful essayists and poets of the day.

Libraries of 28 leading colleges and universities of the United States possess 7,809,669 volumes, according to figures just collected by the University of Minnesota library and made public by George B. Utley, of Chicago, secretary of the American Library Association. Of this number 443,926 volumes were added during the last year at an expenditure of \$657,818. The colleges as a whole report a slightly increased appropriation for books for the coming year. These 28 libraries are administered by a staff of 700 persons, an average of 25 to each library. The total salaries amounted to \$603,723.27 for the past year, or an average of only \$862.46 per capita, which is considerably less than the average salaries paid professors and instructors in the same institutions.

The W. K. Stewart Co., of Indianapolis made a display of books at the recent meeting of the Indiana library association. They also issued lists of 50 titles costing from 25 to 50c each, suggested by the Public library commission of Indianapolis for purchase for children's gifts. The list of books for first purchase as selected and approved at the

meeting of the Indiana library association in November has also been printed for free distribution.

Numbers 3 and 4 of Vol. 2 of *The Library Miscellany*, "The first and only library periodical in India," offers as a palliation of its late appearance an enlarged number full of interesting discussion of various phases of library progress, and a survey of various literary collections. The number is twice the usual size and bears evident mark of the impressions gathered by its editor, Mr J. S. Kudalkar, in his American tour last year.

Illustrations and portraits add decidedly to the interest of the number. These include George V of England; H. H. the Maharaja Gaekwar and H. H. the Maharanee of Baroda. The smiling visage of "St. Andrew" belies the hard heart that turned down the petition for an endowment for a librarians' pension fund, and the classic beauty shown in the exterior and interior views of the Library of Congress also denies the thought that the United States is altogether "wild and woolly."

There is evident admiration for the library work as carried on in this country, as well as in England, and the general tone of the entire number shows plainly that indefinable something called "the library spirit."

A considerable portion of the number is printed in the native language with type in the same, and the future of library work, if carried on in the spirit portrayed in *The Library Miscellany*, will assuredly be on a high plane and of great value to India.

The District of Columbia Health Department issues a pamphlet, "How to keep your baby well," which is sent to the mother of every child born in the District. A new edition of this pamphlet recently issued, contains a section "Books that mothers ought to know." This section, which was prepared by the librarian of the Public library, contains the titles of six of the best books on care of babies, reference to the pamphlets issued by the Children's bureau of the Department of labor, and information concerning registration of borrowers, etc.

Library Schools

Carnegie library of Atlanta

The tenth annual session of the Library school, Carnegie library of Atlanta, opened on September 28 with an enrollment of 12 students from five southern states.

Five of the students have had previous experience in library work.

During October, Mrs Percival Sneed, director of the school, was appointed librarian of the Carnegie library of Atlanta. Mrs Sneed will continue to be the active head of the school.

Mary Louisa Browne, '09, was married on August 6, 1914, to Edward Erwin of Morganton, N. C. They will make their home at the University of Mississippi where Mr Erwin is associate professor of English.

Miss Louise Smith, '10, went early in June to Paris, where she expected to study art until the last of August, at which time she was to return to England for the Oxford meeting. At the declaration of war Miss Smith was forced to leave Paris, going immediately to England, where she spent several weeks. After a short visit to Scotland she returned to America early in October. Miss Smith gave the students in the Library school an interesting description of the Bodleian library and also of the methods of the Chelsea public library.

Anna Laura Robinson, '14, who served as cataloger in the Savannah public library during the summer, was married on October 2d to Russell Malcolm Dodson. Mr and Mrs Dodson will live in Atlanta.

The Graduates' association, which belongs to the Georgia State federation of Women's clubs, sent Margaret Jemison, '14, librarian of the Valdosta public library, as a delegate to the meeting held at Albany, Georgia, October 27-29. Miss Catharine Walker, '13, president of the Graduates' association, was not able to attend the meeting and Miss Helen Brewer, '13, librarian of the Cordele public library, was sent to the meeting as the president's appointee.

DELIA FOREACRE SNEED, Director.

Carnegie library of Pittsburgh

Training school for children's librarians

George B. Utley, secretary of the American library association lectured to the school on November 9 on the Association.

During the week of November 30, Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen gave 10 lectures on literature and story telling. One lecture was held in the evening at the Central library and invitations to attend it were sent to the teachers and other social workers of Pittsburgh.

Henry E. Legler, librarian of the Chicago public library gave two illustrated lectures on December 7. The subjects were "Book-making as a fine art" and "A bundle of old chap books."

Mary E. Robbins, representing the A. L. A. committee on Library training was a visitor of the school December 11 and 12 to examine its curriculum and methods.

S. C. N. BOGLE.

University of Illinois

Immediately after the Thanksgiving vacation, the students of the library school had the pleasure of listening to a most enthusiastic address from Miss Mary E. Hall, librarian of the Girls' high-school, Brooklyn, New York. Miss Hall, in her address on Tuesday afternoon, December 1, gave a history of the development of the library movement as affecting high schools, emphasizing particularly the present need for libraries and trained librarians as a part of the high school equipment and faculty. During her necessarily limited stay at the school, Miss Hall was entertained at luncheon by Mr and Mrs P. S. Goulding, and informally at dinner by the women members of the faculty.

On Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5, Mary E. Robbins, former director of the library courses at Simmons college and at present connected with the H. W. Wilson Company, visited the school as examiner for the A. L. A. committee on professional training. During the period spent at

the university, Miss Robbins attended classes, had conferences with the instructors, was present at a regular faculty meeting, and had an opportunity also of seeing something of the University activities. On Friday afternoon, Miss Robbins gave a brief address to the members of the school.

Miles O. Price, a member of the staff in charge of the stacks, who is registered for several courses in the Library school, has been absent from his work and his classes for several weeks. He has undergone a serious surgical operation at the Burnham hospital, in Champaign.

The field work for the senior class will this year be moved to the middle of March, owing to the change necessary in arranging for Edna Lyman Scott's course of lectures. Mrs Scott's lectures will this year begin at the first of the second semester on February 10, 1915, and will continue until March 12. The field work will follow Mrs Scott's course, and will in its turn probably be followed by the visit to Chicago, made by the entire school.

Alumni notes

Anna V. Jennings, B. L. S. '03, librarian of the Nebraska State Normal school at Kearney, has been given a leave of absence for several months, on account of ill-health. Marjorie Ethol Langdon, B. L. S., '12, the assistant librarian, has been made temporary acting librarian.

Harriet Holderman Saunders, B. L. S., '04, has been appointed temporarily as head of the catalog department of the East Orange (N. J.) public library.

Honor Plummer, B. L. S., '12, has been employed temporarily as cataloger and classifier by the Medical society of the city and county of Denver, Colorado.

Mabel Jones, B. L. S., '09, has been appointed temporary cataloger in the University of Illinois library.

FRANCES SIMPSON,
Assistant director.

New York public library

The Faculty entertained the junior students on November 13 and 18, at the Port Arthur restaurant in Chinatown. The following appreciation from one of the men was a noteworthy result:

Port Arthur

The dream of a chop-suey dinner

After VACHEL LINDSAY

(A long way after)

Fine big bunch in an oriental room,
Library scholars wise and able,
Laughed and squealed as they gathered round
the table.

Gathered round the table.
Chattered and laughed to drive away the
gloom,

Hard as they were able,
Boom, Boom, BOOM.

Gathered round the table wherever there
was room,

Boomlay, boomlay, BOOMLAY, BOOM.

Cups in neat precision, what a dainty vision,
My oriental notions were in need of a revision.

Then I saw the waiter coming from the back,
Looking like the picture on a lacquered plaque,

Bringing in viands from a thousand miles,
Our Chinese mandarin wreathed in smiles.

Almond chicken and Chinese tea,

Tea and rice and chop-suey,

Water chestnuts and almond cakes,

Rice and more tea, goodness sakes!

Then to finish the jamboree,

Candied fruits and a cup of tea.

Hear the voices buzzing, hear the dishes
rattle,

Rattle-rattle, rattle-rattle,

Bing!

Boomlay, boomlay, BOOMLAY, BOOM.

A roaring, epic, rag-time tune

Drifting from an alcove

Out across the room,

Noisily the orchestra

Played a well-known tune

With a boomlay, boomlay, BOOMLAY,
BOOM.

But you must be careful

What you eat and do,

Or your almond chicken will hoo-doo you,

Rice and chop-suey will hoo-doo you,

Your Chinese dinner will hoo-doo you.

The senior students have listened to the following lectures since the last report:

School and college library course:

Dr A. S. Root. The library in the educational scheme, and Training in bibliography in colleges. (Two lectures.)

Andrew Keogh. College library administration. (Six lectures.)

Freeman F. Burr. Literature of physics, of astronomy, of zoology, and of ornithology. (Four lectures.)

Visits were made in December to local college and university libraries.

Advanced reference and cataloging course:

Dr A. S. Root. Training in bibliography in colleges.

Catharine S. Tracey. History of printing. (Six lectures.)

Freeman F. Burr. Literature of physics,

of astronomy, of zoology, and of ornithology.

Mr. Keogh's lectures were optional for this class, but were generally attended.

Administration course:

Annie C. Moore. Selection of children's books. (Seven lectures.)

Children's librarians' course:

Annie C. Moore. Selection of children's books. (Seven lectures.)

Mary W. Plummer. Anthologies of poetry for children.

Visits were made to the juvenile departments of book-stores and to Christmas book exhibits in local libraries.

Junior lectures have been as follows:

The Circulation department of the N. Y. P. L. Benjamin Adams.

The American library association. George B. Utley.

Prints and illustrations. Frank Weitenkamp.

Possibilities of the high-school library. Mary E. Hall.

The golden age of Russian literature. Herman Rosenthal.

Extension work of the Chicago public library. Henry E. Legler.

Spanish-American literature. Dr Blanca Z de Baralt.

The modern museum. Henry W. Kent.

After the lectures by Messrs Utley and Legler, Miss Hall and Mme de Baralt, which were afternoon lectures, the students met the lecturers informally in the schoolroom.

The second Alumni "at home" became a poetry-evening, Miss Sutliff reading several poems by request.

New York state library

George B. Utley, secretary of the A. L. A., spoke to the school, November 7, on the history and work of the association. On December 1, Henry E. Legler gave two illustrated talks on "Bookmaking as a fine art," and "The work of the Chicago public library."

Several students from both classes assisted in the preparation of the school library exhibit in the Albany High school in connection with the meeting of the New York State teachers' association, November 23-25. The members of Mr Watson's class in Library extension are getting practical field experience in connection with the reorganization of the Cohoes City library. Two others are giving voluntary service in story-telling at the South End settlement of Albany,

while still another is volunteer reorganizer of the Library of St. Peter's academy of Troy.

H. Hvenegaard Lassen, 1912-13, is serving in the Danish reserves which are mobilized around Copenhagen. As part of his duties he is assisting the National committee who are establishing reading rooms and traveling libraries for the soldiers who are quartered in villages and farms around Copenhagen.

F. K. WALTER.

Pratt Institute

The social life of the class is a matter of much importance in the administration of a library school. It is desirable that the students should know each other, and that teachers and students should know one another purely as social beings, and also that each should have interests and contacts outside the realm of their work. With this end in view the vice-director instituted some years ago a series of monthly At Homes, to which not the class alone but members of the staff and alumnae know that they are always welcome, and to which others not of the profession are asked from time to time. In this social life the new Pratt Institute woman's club is an important factor. Among other activities it has instituted a regular Tuesday evening "come and bring your work" (especially this year work for the war sufferers) to which members of the Institute faculty are asked each week. Tea is served every day at the club at which the library students meet other women of the Institute. As the club house opens off the library grounds it is easy for the students to run over for a few moments and come back to their work. Recognizing the great popular interest in dancing and the desirability of wisely directing it, the Institute has this year offered short dancing courses one evening a week for five weeks in the Institute gymnasium, open to students from all the departments. A number of the library students have taken advantage of this. Social contacts of a professional nature are pro-

vided by the teas given visiting lecturers, and also by the three alumni association events,—the fall reception, the mid-winter luncheon, and the alumni supper at Commencement.

The Christmas party which has become an institution during the last few years, was held Friday, December 18. A box of figs from California sent by Miss Clara Dills, '12, added much to the pleasure of the party.

To say that Seumas MacManus lectured here on November 19 is a very bald and prosaic statement, in view of the spell of witchery and magic he threw over his audience on that never-to-be-forgotten afternoon when he took us with him to Donegal.

The library lecturers this month have been Dr Frank P. Hill who talked to the class about the history and organization of the Brooklyn public library, and Mr. Henry E. Legler who responded to our request for something inspirational by a delightful paper on the "Building of library traditions."

Alumni notes

Nathalie A. Maurice, '06, has taken a temporary position as cataloger in the Washington County free library, at Hagerstown, Md.

Helen V. Stelle, '13, has been appointed reference librarian of the Public library at Superior, Wis.

Rosamond McIntosh, '14, who has been since graduation first assistant in the Public library at North Adams, Mass., has been made branch librarian in the New Haven public library system.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-director.

Simmons college

The last day of November was marked by the visit of Mr Legler, who gave the students an insight into the "Library extension work of the Chicago public library." The school was glad to welcome a number of librarians from the libraries of Greater Boston who attended the lecture.

In the library economy course, December and January are given to bind-

ing, printing, proof-reading and editing. Visits in connection with this work have been made, so far, to the Riverside press and to Farquhar's bindery.

The Christmas recess begins this year at noon, December 22, and college reopens on January 5. During the holidays Miss Donnelly and Miss Ridlon will attend the Library School round-table in Chicago.

Although it seems early to speak of a summer school before Christmas, plans are well under way for the session of six weeks, from July 6 to August 14, 1915.

As usual a general course will be given during the six weeks, but so divided that cataloging and classification will be given in one three week period and reference in the other.

The course in children's work will be given during the first three weeks, and will this summer be under the charge of Miss Alice Higgins, B. S., Simmons, 1906, whose experience in this line has been gained in Worcester, Utica, and most recently, as assistant to Miss Moore in the New York public library.

Winnifred Chapman, '13-14, is at present in charge of a new branch of the Lynn public library in one of the schools.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY.

University of Wisconsin

Since the last report the following outside lectures have been given.

Mr Legler gave two illustrated lectures, November 20-21, his subjects being "Book-binding as a fine art," and "Library extension in Chicago." An informal tea was given on the afternoon of his first lecture that the students might have an opportunity to meet Mr Legler personally.

There have been two lectures supplementing the course in Book selection; Bibliography of American history by Dr Fish of the History department and Evaluation of books in political economy by Prof Lloyd-Jones of the Economics department of the university.

Miss Ahern paid her annual visit to the school, December 11-12. She lectured to the class upon the "Fashioning of a librarian," and spoke in the evening upon "Librarians I have known."

The students prepared an exhibit illustrating the work of American publishing houses, forming a Christmas exhibit of books, which was on view December 3-5, open to the public of Madison. The exhibit was carefully chosen and attractively displayed, under full charge of the students, who prepared the copy for the newspapers and other means of attracting attention. The public were much interested and good results were obtained from the first.

James Duncan Phillips, of the Houghton Mifflin Company, gave a talk to the school on the "Business of publishing." The students from the University school of journalism were present as guests. Mr Phillips very kindly explained many points regarding the books in the exhibit.

By an arrangement with the other libraries of Madison, the Library school will collect and keep on deposit all technical library material. Both the Historical society and the Madison free library have given to the school material which they had on hand. The collection of such material at the school has obtained substantial proportions and is constantly increased by new additions.

School notes

The class was entertained by Mr and Mrs Dudgeon at their home on November 25. A dramatic reading of "Beau Brummel" was given.

Christmas recess commenced at noon of December 19.

Elizabeth C. Ronan, '12, who has been connected with the Michigan state library, succeeds Miss Williams as assistant organizer for the Indiana library commission.

Anne E. Kjellgren, '14, has been elected high school librarian at Rockford, Ill., beginning January 1. She has been children's librarian at Rockford since her graduation.

Drexel Institute Library School Association*

Alumnae notes

Mary Parry Farr, '95, has been appointed organizer of the Maryland public library commission, beginning work January 1, 1915.

Margaret Forgeus, '06, has been appointed librarian of Meredith college, Raleigh, N. C.

Edith Fulton, '05, has been appointed librarian-in-charge of the South Philadelphia branch of the Free public library of Philadelphia.

Mary Rebecca Lingenfelter, '14, goes to the Free library of Philadelphia as assistant in the cataloging department.

Gladys E. Love, '11, was appointed assistant cataloger in the Rochester, New York public library.

Cornelia E. Notz, '04, is librarian of the Carnegie library, San Antonio, Texas.

Ruby Patience Pegan, '06, is studying in the University of Denver.

Evelyn Somerville, '14, has been appointed assistant in the Cleveland public library.

Helen R. Shoemaker, '12, has been appointed librarian-in-charge of the Oak Lane branch of the Philadelphia free library.

Elizabeth Wallace Steptoe, '14, has been appointed cataloger of the Wistar Institute, Philadelphia.

Isabel McClatchey Turner, '08, goes to the Public library, Allentown, Pa. as librarian, December 1, 1914.

Sara L. Young, '06, has been appointed cataloger in Library of Congress.

*These notes were sent to PUBLIC LIBRARIES by Miss S. C. N. Bogle of Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, for the information of the former Drexel students.

If we could only make our highest moments permanent, what splendid things we should do in life and what magnificent beings we should become; but we let our resolutions cool, our visions fade until it is more convenient to execute them and they are gone.

News from the Field

East

Mrs Frances Rathbone Coe, Pratt '03, who has been head cataloger at the Somerville public library, is to have charge of the re-cataloging of the entire collection of 300,000 volumes in the Massachusetts state library.

Elizabeth R. Frost, N. Y. State, '03-'04, has resigned her position as reference librarian at the Silas Bronson library, Waterbury, Conn., to be with her parents in Dover, N. H. Miss Frost has been on the staff of the Bronson library since October 1910.

The report of the Wesleyan University library, Middletown, Conn., records 3,608 v. added to the library in the last year. There were 9,454 books and periodicals drawn for home use, a decrease of eight per cent. A shelf of special reserve books, of the circulation of which no statistics are made, accounts for the decrease. The endowment of the library is \$100,887.

Bancroft Memorial library, Hopedale, Mass., has recently received through the bequest of Mrs Lura Bancroft Day the sum of \$25,000, the income to be expended for the benefit of the library in such way and manner and for such purposes as the trustees shall determine. Mrs Day was the daughter of Joseph B. Bancroft, who gave the building in memory of his wife.

The annual report of the Phoebe Griffin Noyes library at Old Lyme, Conn., records an increase in the use of the library for the past year. Various communities located in the vicinity are able to use the library on account of the new trolley systems.

Mrs Jessie Stanhope has had charge of the branch work at South Lyme during the past year. The branch at Hamburg has been closed, as a permanent library has been established. Other branch work has developed.

The circulation for the year was 9,643 v. The library received a gift of books from the state to the value of \$100. Various other gifts were also received.

Central Atlantic

R. Alger Sawyer, Jr., B. L. S., N. Y. State, '14, has joined the staff of the New York public library.

Georgie W. Rathbone, Pratt '06, formerly first assistant in the Tompkins Square branch of the New York public library, has been appointed librarian of the Y. W. C. A. library in Brooklyn, beginning work January 1.

Ursula K. Johnstone, Pratt Normal course '13, formerly children's librarian at the Binghamton public library, has been made assistant in the library of the Brooklyn training school for teachers.

A summary of the progress of the Public library of Rochester, N. Y., records that the city has three branch libraries, four sub-branches, 55 deposit stations and 426 class room libraries. The branch libraries are general libraries on a small scale. The sub-stations are distributing centers which rank in size of book collection and service between a large branch and a deposit station. They are used for the distribution of books and not for reading or reference use in the building. A deposit station is a collection of books placed for a time in any center, especially for a considerable number of persons who frequent that place, varying in size from 25 to 600 volumes. The library system of Rochester has as yet no central building and no central collection of books, but nevertheless the work grows by leaps and bounds.

The report of the District of Columbia public library for the year ended June 30, 1914, shows, for the first time in many years, a substantial but still a very inadequate increase in maintenance appropriation. The per capita library expenditure in Washington is still under 20 cents, although the average for all cities above 200,000 in population is 31 cents.

Notwithstanding the continued handicaps of insufficient funds, the year's circulation (through 136 agencies, including the central library) was 713,634 volumes, an increase of 4 per cent over the previous year. The circulation of

mounted pictures was 84,924, an increase of 17 per cent. A table setting forth the salient features of the library's growth in the last 10 years shows that although the increases in congressional appropriation have been but 76 per cent, and the total expenditures have increased but 40 per cent, the book collection has increased 161 per cent and the home circulation of books has increased 156 per cent. The percentage of fiction circulated has decreased 28 per cent.

One third of the total circulation of the library consists of juvenile books. The distribution of school duplicates to the schools has been the chief factor in this circulation. The school duplicate average circulation of 8,750 volumes has had an average circulation of nearly 11 per volume.

The old book-form of registration record has been replaced by a record kept on cards. Many book lists have been compiled at the request of various organizations. The library has been closely connected with the social and civic center movement.

Central

Edna B. Robertson, Ill. '14, has been elected assistant librarian of Drake university, Des Moines, Ia.

Adele Burnham, N. Y. State, '12-'13, has resigned her position in the Superior (Wis.) public library to join the staff of the University of Michigan library, Ann Arbor.

Edith Emigh, for several years a member of the catalog department of the University of Illinois library, resigned her position on December 21, 1914.

Elta V. Savage, N. Y. State, '12-'13, has resigned as assistant reference librarian of the Kansas State agricultural college at Manhattan to become reference librarian of the Duluth (Minn.) public library.

Ellyn C. Broomell, N. Y. State, '13-'14, has resigned her position as assistant in the Lewis Institute branch of the Chicago public library to become an assistant in the library of the University of Chicago.

Herbert S. Hirshberg, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '07, began his duties as librarian of the Public library, Toledo, O., Dec. 1. Since November, 1908, Mr Hirshberg has been in charge of the reference department of the Cleveland public library.

Miss Fannie M. Smith, for several years reference librarian of the Reuben McMillan library, Youngstown, Ohio, has been elected librarian of that library to finish the term of Miss Morse. The term expires in May, at which time the election of a librarian will take place.

The Public library at Evansville, Ind., opened a branch for the colored people of the city on December 2, with appropriate ceremonies. The building was the gift of Mr Carnegie, and will be part of the Evansville public library system. The first week, 428 borrowers registered and 1,009 v. were issued.

The twenty-fifth annual report of the Public library, Superior, Wis., shows a circulation of 115,356 volumes for the year ending June 30, 1914. This is an increase of 10,859 volumes over the preceding year. The children's department shows an increase of 9,645 volumes. The total number of books in the library, June 30, 1914, numbered 26,924 and the total number of borrowers 12,105. Of the books circulated, 40% were non-fiction.

Alice I. Hazeltine has been made supervisor of children's work in the St. Louis public library. Miss Hazeltine graduated from Syracuse university, and spent the year 1901-2 at the New York State library school. She took the special course in the Training school for children's librarians at the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh. At the same time, she was chief children's librarian, 1906-9, and was librarian of the Hazelwood branch until 1911. She was afterwards connected with the Children's department at the Central library in 1913, when she became supervisor of branches in the Buffalo public library.

Miss Power returns to the work with schools in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

An interesting exhibit lately conducted by the Public library of Sioux City, Ia., was one on city planning. The material for this was sent out by the American City Bureau, of New York, and was taken from the large exhibit which was held in the New York public library last year. The Sioux City exhibit covered the entire second floor of the library and was open for three days. Mr Harold Buttenheim, president of the American City Bureau, gave two lectures, "Why city planning pays," and "Some first steps in city planning."

This library has recently purchased a stereopticon to be used for general lectures in the library. There are also 36 sets of stereoscopic pictures and as many stereoscopes. These are loaned to adults the same as books.

The following additions were recently made to the library staff: Vera Hungerford, for seven years with the Buffalo public library, has taken charge of the children's work; Lynne Malmquist, first assistant; Annabel Smith, assistant in the circulating department; Helen Roby, assistant to the branch librarian; Cornelia Plaister, head branch librarian.

South

Measures are being taken by the Louisville public library whereby for \$5,000 annually, the privileges of the library will be extended to all citizens of Jefferson County, on an equality with the citizens of Louisville. Branch stations and school room collections will be established, if the proposition carries.

Morgan P. Robinson has been appointed the head of the Department of archives and history of the State library of Georgia. Mr Robinson graduated from the University of Georgia with the degrees B. A., M. A., and B. L. He is also a member of various historical and other learned societies of the United States.

Something of the development of the work of the Public library of Birmingham, Ala., in its re-organization under Carl H. Milam during the past year may be gleaned from a note which states that

the circulation in November, 1913, was 10,866; the circulation in November, 1914, 23,729. New borrowers registered in November, 1913, 326; in November, 1914, 1,137.

Agnes B. Cooper, (Illinois '10-'11), has been made acting head of the cataloging department of the Public library Kansas City, Mo., vice Eleanor E. Hawkins, resigned.

A branch library for colored people will be opened in Garrison Square Field House, Kansas City, Mo., January 1. Miss Ethalene Wilson, a graduate of Lincoln Institute, will be in charge. She is now in the library taking a preliminary course of instruction.

The twenty-fourth annual report of the Public library of St. Joseph, Mo., records the need of new and larger quarters for the central library.

The number of registered borrowers increased nearly 22 per cent. The total circulation fell by a little more than 13,000 v., of which more than 11,000 were fiction. The reference departments of all the libraries experienced an unprecedented increase in their work. Tax income in cents per capita, .29. Circulation per capita, 3.44. Per cent of population as borrowers, 24.5. Total number of volumes per capita, .9. Total number of volumes, 69,817. Total circulation of books, 266,282. Percentage of fiction, .69. Total number of registered borrowers, 19,017.

Particular attention during the year has been given to the purchase of foreign books. There were 11,552 v., averaging two books per month per child circulated through the schools. A new feature was the graded instruction on books and libraries given to the school children in the central children's room. The indexing on cards of local newspapers proved a time-saving feature.

A collection of 575 stereopticon slides is a gift of F. B. Purdie of St. Joseph. A gift of a Victor portable stereopticon machine was received, which the library lends, together with slides, for private clubs, church or school use.

The library maintains street car ads in

more than one-half of the street cars of the city.

The total income for the year was \$25,014; expenditures: for books, \$3,758; salaries, \$12,550.

Pacific Coast

Elizabeth Lowry, N. Y. State, '12-'13, has been appointed instructor in classification and cataloging at the California State library school, Sacramento.

Alexandrina La Tourette, Pratt '08, of the library of the University of Nevada, has gone to the Seattle public library as head of the Yesler branch.

Mrs Paul Bucher, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '10, has resigned from the Order section of the N. Y. state library to join the reference department staff of the University of California library, Berkeley.

The report of the Free library of Oakland, Cal., for the past year shows a general growth of 10 per cent in all departments. The library had a circulation of 586,056 v., 92,419 magazines and 16,785 pictures. The library has 109,097 v. A gift of church music has been made available and 26 churches in four months took 2,750 copies of 222 titles.

Active work is being done to secure sites for four new branch buildings, costing \$35,000 each, given by the Carnegie Corporation. The report states that the central building is badly crowded and suggests a bond issue to provide a new main building, leaving the present \$50,000 building, a gift of Mr Carnegie, to be used as a downtown branch.

The library now has 10 city branches and five deposit stations, not counting schools; 14 county branches and six deposit stations.

The Oakland public library runs the public museum, which has 36,745 exhibits and an attendance of 54,920 for the year.

Foreign

The annual report of the Public library of Leeds, England, for the year,

March 31, 1913 to March 31, 1914, records a total issue of 1,368,080 v. The issue of books for home use through the branches was 863,444 v. The additions to the library were 13,656 v. The library has 23 branches, the use of which has tended somewhat to a decline in the use of the central library. The total number of borrowers registered during the year was 32,730.

The annual report of the Imperial library of Tokyo, Japan, records the number of books added the past year: Japanese and Chinese, 3,341; European, 2,125; total number in the library, 298,663. Of these, 68,865 are European books. Number of readers, 231,373; number of books read, 951,884.

There was a decrease in the number of books read in the year, but an increase in the number of books in the library and the number of readers.

Edmund Goss will retire from the librarianship of the English House of Lords under the Superannuation rule.

He was made assistant in the Printed books department of the British museum in 1867 and was transferred to the Board of Trade in 1875. He became librarian of the House of Lords in 1904. The length of his public service will entitle him to a pension equivalent to two-thirds of his present salary.

Mr Goss is well known for his varied scholarly and literary works.

Correction

The list published recently by the Library of Congress concerns "Water rights and the control of waters," and not "Water ways and the control of waters," as was listed in PUBLIC LIBRARIES 19:485.

"The Kaiser: a book about the most interesting man in Europe," is a recent publication edited by Asa Don Dickinson, a former librarian, now connected with Doubleday, Page & Co., which sends out this fully illustrated, popular commentary on the central figure in the great war.

All About Legislative Reference*

In this exhaustive study Mr Kaiser has given a veritable store house of information, not in all cases complete but perhaps suggestive, upon the subject of three of the most important specialized libraries of today.

The best methods of obtaining material, schemes of classification, and of administrative procedure are indicated. Clearly he presents 1) the origin and development of these libraries; 2) the materials, legal and documentary, books, serial publications, miscellaneous pamphlets, correspondence, clippings, etc.; 3) handling of material; 4) legal procedure for establishing a bureau.

That there is a demand for intelligent legislation is shown by the fact that now 34 states have legislative reference bureaus or libraries, and that there are over 75 municipal reference libraries or bureaus or other agencies definitely interested in research work to aid in the assembling of information for legislators. The function of the law library is to provide the facts of the existing law. The function of the legislative reference library and the municipal reference library is "to supply one factor of the problem of intelligent legislation by providing in addition to existing law facts of comparative experience both to be used by law makers as a basis for more intelligent and scientifically planned legislation," thus are they constructive agents for civic and social forces. The appendix lists the laws creating legislative reference departments in the various states and ordinances and laws relating to municipal reference work.

The purpose of the book is best expressed in Mr Kaiser's own words.

That part dealing with law libraries aims to give to the law student some knowledge of the use of his tools which is now given in law schools, if at all, at various unrelated points in a curriculum naturally emphasizing facts of law rather than sources of law, and to give to the law student who prefers the literary

side of his profession an elementary knowledge of law library methods. To the library school student it aims to give a general notion of the materials with which he must be familiar if he plans to enter law library work. . . . The sections on legislative and municipal reference work record the history and development of two very practical and useful phases of modern library activity. The materials and methods in these two receive fuller treatment than those same topics receive in the first section. . . . Legislators themselves are demanding information before they act and public opinion is seeking education. The text is planned to supply some want of each and to be a bibliographical guide to those already engaged in legislative and municipal reference libraries and research bureaus.

The book is based on lectures given before the senior class of the University of Illinois library school, and so suggested class problems are appended.

Boys have long enjoyed the benefits of a wealth of biographical material tending to give them high ideals of civic achievement and noble manhood. A new book has attempted in "A group of famous women" to do the same thing for girls,—namely, to familiarize them with the important part played by women in the development of the civilization of the world.

In view of the greatly increased, and ever increasing, opportunity for usefulness on the part of women the world over, the coming generation must be trained to measure up to these new standards without loss of either womanly dignity or charm and without lowering ethical standards. No girl can read this book without being inspired, to some degree at least, to equal or surpass the high achievement of the group of representative women whose lives are briefly recorded in this conservative little book.*

*A group of famous women, Edith Horton, D. C. Heath.

Position wanted by trained, experienced librarian. Address Librarian, 11305 Hessler Rd., Cleveland, O.

For Sale: Encyclopedia Britannica; library edition; cash. Library, Fargo College, Fargo, N. D.

*Law, legislative and municipal reference libraries, by John B. Kaiser. Boston Book Co., 1914. 8vo, pp. xii 467. \$4.